Library

News United States Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics Washington, D.C. 20212

L. LeGrande (202) 523-1091
K. Hoyle (202) 523-1913
Home: 333-1384

USDL: 78-63
FOR RELEASE: 11:00 A.M. E.S.T.
Thursday, January 26, 1978

WORK STOPPAGES, 1977

Idleness due to work stoppages in 1977 was 0.17 percent of estimated working time (1.7 working days idle per thousand), according to preliminary estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. The idleness rate in 1977 was below the 1976 level of 1.9 working days idle per thousand (table 1).

- Approximately 5,600 strikes and lockouts began in 1977, slightly below the 5,648 recorded in 1976.
- There were an estimated 2.3 million workers involved in 1977 disputes, 120,000 fewer than those who participated in stoppages during 1976.
- Idleness in 1977, of approximately 36.0 million days, was also below the 1976 total of 37.9 million.
- The average size of stoppages in 1977 was smaller than in 1976--411 and 428 workers per strike, respectively.
- Average strike duration in 1976 and 1977 was virtually unchanged. There were an average 15.6 days idle per worker involved in 1976 and 15.7 days in 1977.
- Monthly work stoppage activity in 1977 (table 2) was influenced by walkouts in the bituminous coal industry. In July, August, and December--months of peak worker involvement and idleness--large coal walkouts were in effect. Coal miners comprised 17 percent of all workers on strike in July; one-quarter of all days idle during August were due to a mid-contract coal strike; and almost 70 percent of the workers who walked off their jobs in December were involved in a contract renegotiation dispute in the coal industry. Two-thirds of the days idle in December also were due to this major dispute. Similarly, total working time accounted for by labor disputes reached its highest level in December 1977.

- There were 16 major work stoppages (involving 10,000 workers or more) in 1977, 7 less than in 1976 (table 3). Just 20 percent of all workers on strike or locked out in 1977 participated in major disputes, compared with 43 percent in 1976. Relatively more days idle in 1976 were due to major walkouts than was true in 1977--37 and 26 percent, respectively.

Characteristics of Work Stoppages

The direction of major work stoppage measures by industry varied between 1976 and 1977 (table 4). The percentage of workers who struck in the manufacturing and nonmanufacturing sectors remained about the same between the 2 years. However, the proportion of nonmanufacturing stoppages decreased from 60 to 53 percent. One possible explanation was the 8 percentage point decrease in the 1977 prevalence of coal strikes. Days of idleness in manufacturing industries declined markedly from 64 percent in 1976 to 49 percent in 1977. A 5-month rubber strike in 1976 and a 3-month bituminous coal walkout in 1977 accounted for the reversal in the industry mix of days idle.

The greatest proportion of stoppages (57 percent) was called over general wage changes (table 5). Although there were relatively more of these disputes in 1977 than in 1976, the proportion of workers involved fell 5 percentage points while days idle remained unchanged. Proportionately more workers struck over plant administration and fewer over job security in 1977 than in 1976.

As in past years, the greatest concentration of labor disputes involved 20-99 workers (table 6). The relatively few large stoppages that involved 5,000 workers or more accounted for 35 percent of all strikers and 38 percent of all days idle.

The 1976 and 1977 distributions of stoppages by duration differed considerably (table 7). While most 1976 strikes lasted just one day, disputes in 1977 most frequently lasted 30-59 days. Stoppages of 2 to 3 days accounted for the greatest proportion of strikers in 1976, whereas workers who struck in 1977 were concentrated in disputes of 15-29 days. In 1976, walkouts in effect for at least 90 days were responsible for 39 percent of all days idle. In 1977, 30 percent of days idle were due to strikes that lasted 30-59 days.

Days of idleness as a percent of estimated total working time is derived by dividing total estimated days of idleness by total estimated working time available. Worktime available is the product of the number of working days during the month and estimated employment in the total economy.

Table 1. Work stoppages in the United States, 1947-77 1/

(Workers and days idle in thousands)

Year	Work stoppages	Workers involved	Days idle during year	
	Number	Number	Number	Percent of est. total working time 2/
1947	3,693	2,170	34,600	.30
1948	3,419	1,960	34,100	.28
1949	3,606	3,030	50,500	.44
1950	4,843	2,410	38,800	.33
1951	4,737	2,220	22,900	.18
1952	5,117	3,540	59,100	.48
1953	5,091	2,400	28,300	.22
1954	3,468	1,530	22,600	.18
1955	4,320	2,650	28,200	.22
1956	3,825	1,900	33,100	.24
1957	3,673	1,390	16,500	.12
1958	3,694	2,060	23,900	.18
1959	3,708	1,880	69,000	.50
1960	3,333	1,320	19,100	.14
1961	3,367	1,450	16,300	.11
1962	3,614	1,230	18,600	.13
1963	3,362	941	16,100	.11
1964	3,655	1,640	22,900	.15
1965	3,963	1,550	23,300	.15
1966	4,405	1,960	25,400	.15
1967	4,595	2,870	42,100	.25
1968	5,045	2,649	49,018	.28
1969	5,700	2,481	42,869	.24
1970	5,716	3,305	66,414	.37
1971	5,138	3,280	47,589	.26
1972	5,010	1,714	27,066	.15
1973	5,353	2,251	27,948	.14
1974	6,074	2,778	47,991	.24
1975	5,031	1,746	31,237	.16
1976	5,648	2,420	37,859	.19
1977p	5,600	2,300	36,000	.17

1/ The number of stoppages and workers relate to those stoppages that began in the year. Days of idleness include all stoppages in effect. Workers are counted more than once if they were involved in more than 1 stoppage during the year.

Available information for earlier periods appears in the Handbook of Labor Statistics, 1975 Reference Edition, BLS Bulletin 1865 (1975), Tables 159-64. For a discussion of the procedures involved in the collection and compilation of work stoppage statistics, see BLS Handbook of Methods for Survey and Studies, BLS Bulletin 1910 (1976), Chapter 27.

2/ Agricultural and government employees are included in the total employed and total working time; private household, forestry, and fishery employees are excluded. An explanation of the measurement of idleness as a percentage of the total time worked is found in "Total Economy Measure of Strike Idleness," Monthly Labor Review, Oct. 1968.

NOTE: p = preliminary.

Table 2. Work stoppages by month, 1976-77.
(Workers and days idle in thousands)

Month	Work stoppages	Workers involved	Days idle during month	
	Number	Number	Number	Percent of est. total working time
1976 January	338	77	1,200	.07
February	362	96	1,030	.07
March	443	157	1,762	.10
April	591	465	3,133	.18
May	572	164	3,597	.22
June	577	231	4,388	.24
July	505	292	5,145	.30
August	480	171	4,557	.26
September	521	340	4,848	.28
October	559	152	4,348	.28
November	452	201	2,391	.14
December	248	75	1,459	.08
1977 1/ January	385	120	1,204	.07
February	310	175	1,429	.09
March	409	236	2,204	.12
April	634	187	2,676	.15
May	496	226	3,440	.20
June	580	197	2,874	.15
July	552	243	3,582	.21
August	436	163	3,805	.20
September	660	197	3,258	.18
October	561	203	3,529	.22
November	392	114	3,574	.20
December	185	239	4,425	.25

1/ Revised, preliminary.

NOTE: Due to rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals on table 1.

Table 3. Work stoppages involving 10,000 workers or more, beginning in 1977 1/

Company	Location	Union(s) 2/	Beginning Date	Ending Date	Workers Involved	Days Idle
Bituminous Coal Industry	Southern West Virginia	UMW (Ind.)	2-15	3-3	14,000	168,000
Bituminous Coal Industry	Illinois, Intercity	UMW (Ind.)	2-15	3-2	10,000	110,000
Bituminous Coal Industry	West Virginia, Intrastate	UMW (Ind.)	4-20	5-17	12,000	240,000
Construction Industry	Bloomington, Illinois	LIUNA	5-5	6-23	15,000	300,000 3/
Construction Industry	Ohio, Intrastate	LIUNA	5-18	6-10	12,000	204,000
Bituminous Coal Industry	Interstate	UMW (Ind.)	6-21	9-4	60,000	1,330,000 3/
Copper Industry	Interstate	USA	7-1	9-6	31,000	520,000 3/
Construction Industry	Southern California	IUOE	7-18	7-25	10,000	60,000
Construction Industry	Seattle, Washington	CJA	7-26	8-2	14,000	84,000
State of Wisconsin	Statewide-Wisconsin	AFSCME	7-3	7-17	10,182	92,000
Iron Ore Mining and Processing Industry	Interstate	USA	8-1	12-16	15,000	1,252,852 3/
General Motors Corp., Delco-Remy Division	Anderson, Indiana	UAW (Ind.)	8-15	8-28	12,800	128,000
Glass Container Mfg. Institute	Interstate	AFGW	9-16	10-16	43,643	492,000 3/
Boeing Company	Interstate	IAM	10-3	11-17	23,000	713,000
Lockheed Corp.	Interstate	IAM	10-10	12-31	18,648	887,485
Bituminous Coal Industry	Interstate	UMW (Ind.)	12-6	-	160,000	2,885,000
			Total 16 stoppages:		461,273	9,466,337

1/ Preliminary.
2/ The unions are affiliated with the AFL-CIO unless noted as Independent (Ind.).
3/ Staggered idleness.

Table 4. Percent distribution of work stoppages by industry, 1976-77 1/

Industry	Work stoppages 1976	Work stoppages 1977p	Workers involved 1976	Workers involved 1977p	Days idle 1976	Days idle 1977p
All industries 2/	100	100	100	100	100	100
Manufacturing 2/	40	47	40	41	64	49
Ordance and accessories	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
Food and kindred products	4	4	4	3	5	3
Tobacco manufactures	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
Textile mill products	1	1	3/	3/	3/	3/
Apparel 4/	1	1	1	1	1	1
Lumber and wood products, except furniture	1	2	3/	1	1	1
Furniture and fixtures	1	2	3/	1	1	1
Paper and allied products	2	2	1	2	1	3
Printing, publishing, and allied industries	1	1	1	3/	1	1
Chemical and allied products	2	2	1	1	3	2
Petroleum refining and related industries	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	1
Rubber and miscellaneous plastics products	2	2	4	1	16	1
Leather and leather products	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	1
Stone, clay, and glass products	3	3	1	3	2	2
Primary metal industries	4	5	2	5	3	5
Fabricated metal products 5/	6	7	3	3	4	4
Machinery, except electrical	6	8	6	8	7	9
Electrical machinery, equipment, and supplies	4	4	6	4	6	4
Transportation equipment	2	3	10	8	11	9
Instruments, etc. 6/	1	1	3/	1	3/	1
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries	1	1	1	3/	1	1
Nonmanufacturing 2/	60	53	60	59	36	51
Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
Mining	25	17	21	31	6	24
Contract construction	9	8	7	11	9	10
Transportation, communication, electric, gas, and sanitray services	6	6	16	3	9	5
Wholesale and retail trade	8	9	2	4	4	5
Finance, insurance, and real estate	1	3/	1	3/	1	3/
Services	4	5	4	2	4	3
Government 7/	7	8	8	9	5	5

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Percent distribution of work stoppages by industry, 1976-77 1/

[1] The number of stoppages and workers involved relate to disputes that began in the period, days of idleness to all stoppages in effect.

[2] The number of stoppages reported for a division may not equal the sum of its components because individual stoppages occurring in two or more groups have been counted in each. Workers and days idle have been allocated among the respective groups.

[3] Less than 0.5 percent.

[4] Includes other finished products made from fabrics and similar materials.

[5] Excludes ordance, machinery, and transportation equipment.

[6] Includes professional, scientific, and controlling instruments; photographic and optical goods; watches and clocks.

[7] The situations reported here have, for statistical purposes, been deemed to fall within the Bureau's definition of a work stoppage. This decision does not constitute a legal determination that a work stoppage has taken place in violation of any law or public policy.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.

Dash (-) denotes zero.

p = preliminary.

Table 5. Percent distribution of work stoppages by major issue, 1976-77 1/

Major issue	Work stoppages 1976	Work stoppages 1977p	Workers involved 1976	Workers involved 1977p	Days idle 1976	Days idle 1977p
All issues	100	100	100	100	100	100
General wage changes	51	57	50	45	63	63
Supplementary benefits	1	2	2/	1	1	2
Wage adjustments	3	3	2	4	1	8
Hours of work	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/
Other contractual matter	3	2	1	3	1	3
Union organization and security	6	4	5	3	6	7
Job security	6	4	17	5	19	6
Plant administration	23	22	20	29	7	10
Other working conditions	3	3	2	3	2/	1
Interunion or intraunion matters	5	4	2	6	1	2
Not available	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/

1/ The number of stoppages and workers involved relate to disputes that began in the period, days idle to all stoppages in effect.
2/ Less than 0.5 percent.
3/ It is not possible to make a valid comparison between the 2 years because collection of data for 1977 has not been completed.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.
p = preliminary.

Table 6. Percent distribution of work stoppages by size, 1976-77 1/

Number of workers involved	Work stoppages 1976	Work stoppages 1977p	Workers involved 1976	Workers involved 1977p	Days idle 1976	Days idle 1977p
All stoppages	100	100	100	100	100	100
6 - 19	12	14	2/	2/	1	1
20 - 99	37	39	4	6	6	6
100 - 249	25	23	10	11	10	11
250 - 499	16	13	13	14	11	10
500 - 999	6	7	10	14	10	12
1,000 - 4,999	3	4	15	24	19	19
5,000 - 9,999	2/	1	5	11	8	9
10,000 and over	2/	2/	43	20	37	26

1/ The number of stoppages and workers involved relate to those disputes beginning during the period, days idle to all stoppages in effect.
2/ Less than 0.5 percent.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.

p = preliminary.

Table 7. Percent distribution of work stoppages by duration, 1976-77 1/

Duration	Stoppages ending in period					
	Number		Workers involved		Days idle	
	1976	1977p	1976	1977p	1976	1977p
All stoppages----------	100	100	100	100	100	100
1 day--------------------	20	11	14	7	1	2/
2 - 3 days----------------	12	9	19	10	3	1
4 - 6 days----------------	10	9	9	17	2	11
7 - 14 days---------------	16	15	14	13	6	5
15 - 29 days--------------	15	19	13	23	10	18
30 - 59 days--------------	14	27	13	19	18	30
60 - 89 days--------------	7	5	11	8	22	14
90 days and over---------	8	5	7	4	39	20

1/ Data refer to all stoppages ending during the period.
2/ Less than 0.5 percent.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.

p = preliminary.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

FIRST CLASS MAIL

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
LAB - 441

U.S.MAIL

Institute of Labor 313
& Industrial Rel. Library
504 E. Armory
Champaign, Illionis 61820

North Central Region
230 South Dearborn
Chicago IL 60604
U S DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
phone: 312-353-1880

Work Stoppages
Region V
1977

STRIKE ACTIVITY IN 1977
11.6 Million Days of Idleness
690,000 Workers Involved

Idleness due to work stoppages in 1977 amounted to approximately 11.6 million days, somewhat below the 1976 total of 12.6 million days. The number of workers involved was 690,000, down from 774,000 in 1976. However, the number of work stoppages in Region V was the highest on record (for the past six years) totalling 1,756.

William E. Rice, Regional Commissioner for the Bureau in Chicago, said that idleness due to work stoppages declined in both Ohio and Michigan in 1977. Idleness was up slightly in Indiana and Illinois and rose sharply in both Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Table A. Work stoppages in Region V. 1972–77.

(Workers and days idle in thousands)

Year	Stoppages beginning in year		Days idle during year	
	Number	Workers involved	Number	Percent of working time
1972	1,355	522	8,274	.24
1973	1,512	851	8,121	.19
1974	1,687	712	13,793	.32
1975	1,312	425	7,568	.18
1976	1,561	774	12,625	.29
1977	1,756	690	11,646	NA

The increase in strike idleness in Minnesota was due mainly to a 4 1/2 month strike in the iron ore mining and processing industry. Idleness in Ohio amounted to nearly a third of the regional total. Strikes in both the construction industry and bituminous coal mining accounted for large amounts of idleness in Ohio. Coal miners' strikes also pushed up total strike idleness in Illinois.

Among metropolitan areas, idleness in Cleveland, Detroit, and Chicago accounted for nearly one fifth of the region-wide days idle. Idleness in these three areas varied from 620,000 days idle in the Chicago metropolitan area to 632,000 days in Detroit, and 872,000 in Cleveland. Other areas with over a quarter-million days of idleness were Minneapolis-St. Paul, Indianapolis (283,000), Dayton (351,000), and Milwaukee (445,000 days idle). Areas with the most work stoppages were Chicago with 132 and Detroit, 153. Detroit and Cleveland had the most workers involved--47,000 and 45,000 respectively.

Additional data showing work stoppages by industry group in each state will be available by mid-January.

TABLE 1. Work stoppages by State and metropolitan area, 1977 1/
(Workers and days idle in thousands)

State and metropolitan area	Stoppages beginning in year		Days idle during year (all stoppages)
	Number	Workers involved	
All states	5,506	2,040.1	35,821.8
Illinois	420	196.8	2,245.6
Bloomington-Normal	5	2.2	18.3
Chicago Northwestern Indiana Standard Consolidated Area	148	38.8	779.2
Chicago 2/	132	32.4	619.7
Decatur	10	7.2	154.5
Peoria	23	6.3	184.1
Rockford	8	1.4	31.7
Springfield	5	2.9	47.0
Ohio	556	218.8	3,573.7
Akron	30	7.4	159.5
Canton	35	10.0	185.2
Cincinnati, OH-KY-IN	55	10.8	177.8
Ohio portion	51	10.1	171.4
Cleveland	96	44.8	871.7
Columbus	36	7.3	131.9
Dayton	19	12.1	351.4
Hamilton-Middletown	8	2.5	40.7
Lima	11	5.2	110.4
Lorain-Elyria	8	1.6	28.5
Mansfield	6	1.3	26.6
Steubenville-Weirton, OH-WV	9	.9	33.1
West Virginia portion	5	.4	23.4
Toledo, OH-MI	41	13.5	162.2
Ohio portion	40	12.7	161.4
Youngstown-Warren	28	7.3	143.0
Michigan	327	97.9	1,717.1
Ann Arbor	14	3.9	69.5
Battle Creek	12	2.9	56.1
Detroit	153	47.1	632.2
Flint	10	2.6	39.8
Grand Rapids	21	3.4	80.4
Jackson	6	.9	26.6
Kalamazoo-Portage	14	2.3	37.2
Lansing-East Lansing	16	3.7	59.1
Muskegon-Muskegon Heights	12	2.6	111.0
Saginaw	13	7.1	38.0
Indiana	234	95.3	1,611.8
Anderson	10	13.7	186.3
Evansville, IN-KY	7	3.3	57.9
Indiana portion	7	3.3	57.9
Fort Wayne	28	4.7	88.7
Gary-Hammond-East Chicago 2/	17	6.4	159.5
Indianapolis	38	21.8	283.4
Lafayette-West Lafayette	5	0.3	4.0
South Bend	17	3.8	83.5
Terre Haute	11	1.0	10.4
Wisconsin	119	59.3	1,132.3
Appleton-Oshkosh	6	1.8	111.4
Kenosha	8	1.4	59.1
La Crosse	5	.3	20.6
Madison	12	12.4	138.9
Milwaukee	33	21.5	444.5
Racine	14	7.5	110.7
Minnesota	100	22.1	1,365.6
Duluth-Superior, MN-WI	14	1.7	58.6
Minnesota portion	12	1.2	48.5
Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI	59	6.4	246.7
Minnesota portion	59	6.4	246.7

[1] Includes data for each metropolitan area in which 5 stoppages or more began in 1977. Some metropolitan areas include counties in more than one State, and hence an area may equal or exceed the total for the State in which the major city is located. Stoppages in the logging and mining industries are excluded. Stoppages occurring in more than one metropolitan area are counted separately in each area affected; the workers involved and days idle are allocated to the respective areas.

[2] Included in the Chicago, Ill-Northwestern Indiana Standard Consolidated Area.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals. Dashes (-) denote zeros.

Scope and definitions

Data include all work stoppages in the United States that involve six workers or more and continue for the equivalent of a full day or shift or longer. A strike is defined as a temporary stoppage of work by a group of employees (not necessarily members of a union) to express a grievance or enforce a demand. A lockout is a temporary withholding or denial of employment during a labor dispute to enforce terms of employment upon a group of employees. Both strikes and lockouts are included in the term "work stoppage."

The figures on the number of "workers involved" and "days idle" include all workers made idle for one shift or longer in establishments directly involved in a stoppage. They do not account for secondary idleness--that is, the effects of a stoppage on other establishments or industries whose employees may be made idle as a result of material or service shortages.

In computing idleness as a percent of total working time, working time is estimated by multiplying the average employment for the year by the number of days typically worked during that year.

GPO 821-553

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
230 SOUTH DEARBORN ST., 9TH FLOOR
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
LAB-441

U.S.MAIL

Work Stoppages
Region V
1977

00000000822 00038130000⁴ 001
INSTITUTE OF LABOR AND
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS LIBRARY
504 E ARMORY
CHAMPAIGN IL 61820

Work Stoppages, 1977 and First 9 Months of 1978

Summary
79-2

U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics

1977 highlights

Although 1977 was a year of extensive bargaining in a number of major industries, there were fewer strikes, fewer workers involved, and fewer days of idleness than in 1976. About 2.4 percent of the work force participated in strikes in 1977 compared with 3 percent in 1976. However, strikes tended to last longer. The average duration of strikes in 1977—29.3 days—was the highest on record since data were first collected in 1927. The proportion of estimated total working time lost to strikes was 0.17 percent (1.7 days per thousand), not out of line with previous years (table 1).

The distribution of work stoppages on a monthly basis was influenced largely by the timing of work stoppages involving 10,000 workers or more. Twelve of these stoppages began in the second half of the year, mostly in July, August, and October. Compared with previous years, December had an unusually high number of workers involved and days lost, primarily because of the bituminous coal strike which began on the sixth of that month when the industrywide contract expired. (The workers returned to work in March 1978.) That strike alone accounted for about 85 percent of the workers involved and 60 percent of the days idle in December (table 2).

Following a general pattern seen in previous years, about half of the strikes in 1977 involved fewer than 100 workers. Very few strikes involved more than 10,000 workers (table 3).

Stoppages involving 10,000 workers or more were not as frequent as in many earlier years. The number of such stoppages declined to 18 in 1977, from 23 in 1976. More than three-fourths of these stoppages occurred in the nonmanufacturing sector, and one-third occurred in the bituminous coal industry (table 4).

Four industries accounted for 50 percent of the strike-related idleness during 1977—mining, transportation equipment, contract construction, and nonelectrical machinery. While high relative to other industries, idleness for contract construction actually was low for that industry compared with other years; the proportion of estimated working time lost in contract construction reached its lowest level since 1963.

In general, the lowest proportions of working time lost to strikes were registered in four of the nonmanufacturing industries and in government. The proportion in government was about the same as in 1976, even though total days of idleness for this sector increased.

The average duration of strikes in government, when weighted by the number of workers, increased over last year (from 12 days to 15 days) but was still lower than in any other industry group except mining, which experienced mostly short protest disputes (table 5).

Half of the stoppages in 1977 (those ending in the year) lasted less than 15 days. About 18 percent lasted between 2 weeks and 1 month (table 6).

Economic matters were the primary motivation for most strikes. More than half of the strikes in 1977 were over general wage changes. Such strikes involved about 900,000 workers in more than 3,000 stoppages and contributed to total idleness almost 22 million days, or 61 percent of the total.
percent of the total.

Plant administration was the second major cause of strikes, involving 696,800 workers and accounting for more than 7 million days of idleness. Most of the idleness from plant administration disputes resulted from the coal strike that began in December. Major issues still unsettled at the time the strike began included the Bituminous Coal Operators Association's demand that fines be levied on workers engaging in wildcat strikes and union demands for a right to strike over local grievances (table 7).

The proportion of strikes involving AFL-CIO affiliates has remained relatively stable since 1972. Strike activity among workers represented by professional employee associations declined for the second year in a row, after reaching a peak in 1975. (table 8).

Slightly more than 75 percent of the strikes ended with formal settlements for resolving issues. Less than 15 percent were protest or sympathy disputes which ended without formal settlements, while very few workers were forced to return to work because of a court injunction or other means of terminating the strike (table 9).

Strike activity was greatest in the populous and highly industrialized States, as in previous years. For instance, Pennsylvania continued to experience more strikes (620) than any other State, while West Virginia had the largest number of workers involved, and Ohio and Pennsylvania had the most days idle. Among metropolitan areas, the New York-Northeastern New

---

Prepared in the Division of Industrial Relations by Marcy Freedman.

Jersey Standard Consolidated Area led in number of strikes (299) and Los Angeles-Long Beach led in number of days idle (1.3 million). New York-New Jersey and Seattle-Everett were the only other metropolitan areas to experience more than a million days of idleness (table 10).

Region V recorded the most strikes, the most workers involved, and the most days idle. (See table 11 for the States in the regions.) It was the only region in which no State experienced fewer than 100 stoppages. Strike measures for Region III were also high in comparison with the other regions. Together these two regions included 4 of the 5 States with the greatest amount of idleness nationwide: Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Illinois.

As usual, most disputes developed during the renegotiation of agreements—almost 60 percent of the disputes in 1977—with general wage issues as the primary motivation for 83 percent of these disputes (compared with 57 percent of all disputes). A substantial increase in disputes occurred at firms where no contracts were in effect (from 59 in 1976 to 129 in 1977), with half the increase resulting from disputes over union organization and security issues (table 12).

First 9 months of 1978

Preliminary data for 1978 indicate that there were fewer stoppages and fewer workers on strike in the first 9 months of 1978 than in the first 9 months of 1977 (table 13). This may reflect the lighter bargaining year in 1978. However, idleness for the first 9 months of 1978 increased by about one-third over the same period in 1977, with the coal strike (which lasted from December 1977 to March 1978) accounting for most of the increase.

The only significant increases in 1978 in the proportion of workers who struck occurred in the transportation category and in wholesale and retail trade. Transportation workers on strike as a proportion of all strikers increased (27.6 percent in 1978 compared with 2.4 percent in 1977), although the number of strikes in the transportation category declined by 9 percent in 1978. In wholesale and retail trade there was a 49-percent increase (35,00 workers) in the number of workers on strike.

Table 1. Work stoppages in the United States, 1927-77[1]

(Workers and days idle in thousands)

Year	Work stoppages			Workers involved		Days idle during year		
	Number	Duration		Number	Percent of total employed 3/	Number	Percent of est. total working time 3/	Per worker involved
		Mean 2/	Median					
1927	707	26.5	3	330	1.4	26,200	(4)	79.5
1928	604	27.6	(4)	314	1.3	12,600	(4)	40.2
1929	921	22.6	(4)	289	1.2	5,350	(4)	18.5
1930	637	22.3	(4)	183	.8	3,320	(4)	18.1
1931	810	18.8	(4)	342	1.6	6,890	(4)	20.2
1932	841	19.6	(4)	324	1.8	10,500	(4)	32.4
1933	1,695	16.9	(4)	1,170	6.3	16,900	(4)	14.4
1934	1,856	19.5	(4)	1,470	7.2	19,600	(4)	13.4
1935	2,014	23.8	(4)	1,120	5.2	15,500	(4)	13.8
1936	2,172	23.3	(4)	789	3.1	13,900	(4)	17.6
1937	4,740	20.3	(4)	1,860	7.2	28,400	(4)	15.3
1938	2,772	23.6	(4)	688	2.8	9,150	(4)	13.3
1939	2,613	23.4	(4)	1,170	3.5	17,800	.21	15.2
1940	2,508	20.9	(4)	577	1.7	6,700	.08	11.6
1941	4,288	18.3	(4)	2,360	6.1	23,000	.23	9.8
1942	2,968	11.7	(4)	840	2.0	4,180	.04	5.0
1943	3,752	5.0	(4)	1,980	4.6	13,500	.10	6.8
1944	4,956	5.6	(4)	2,120	4.8	8,720	.07	4.1
1945	4,750	9.9	(4)	3,470	8.2	38,000	.31	11.0
1946	4,985	24.2	(4)	4,600	10.5	116,000	1.04	25.2
1947	3,693	25.6	(4)	2,170	4.7	34,600	.30	15.9
1948	3,419	21.8	(4)	1,960	4.2	34,100	.28	17.4
1949	3,606	22.5	(4)	3,030	6.7	50,500	.44	16.7
1950	4,843	19.2	8	2,410	5.1	38,800	.33	16.1
1951	4,737	17.4	7	2,220	4.5	22,900	.18	10.3
1952	5,117	19.6	7	3,540	7.3	59,100	.48	16.7
1953	5,091	20.3	9	2,400	4.7	28,300	.22	11.8
1954	3,468	22.5	9	1,530	3.1	22,600	.18	14.7
1955	4,320	18.5	8	2,650	5.2	28,200	.22	10.7
1956	3,825	18.9	7	1,900	3.6	33,100	.24	17.4
1957	3,673	19.2	8	1,390	2.6	16,500	.12	11.4
1958	3,694	19.7	8	2,060	3.9	23,900	.18	11.6
1959	3,708	24.6	10	1,880	3.3	69,000	.50	36.7
1960	3,333	23.4	10	1,320	2.4	19,100	.14	14.5
1961	3,367	23.7	9	1,450	2.6	16,300	.11	11.2
1962	3,614	24.6	9	1,230	2.2	18,600	.13	15.0
1963	3,362	23.0	8	941	1.1	16,100	.11	17.1
1964	3,655	22.9	8	1,640	2.7	22,900	.15	14.0
1965	3,963	25.0	9	1,550	2.5	23,300	.15	15.1
1966	4,405	22.2	9	1,960	3.0	25,400	.15	12.9
1967	4,595	22.8	9	2,870	4.3	42,100	.25	14.7
1968	5,045	24.5	10	2,649	3.8	49,018	.28	18.5
1969	5,700	22.5	10	2,481	3.5	42,869	.24	17.3
1970	5,716	25.0	11	3,305	4.7	66,414	.37	20.1
1971	5,138	27.0	11	3,280	4.5	47,589	.26	14.5
1972	5,010	24.0	8	1,714	2.3	27,066	.15	15.8
1973	5,353	24.0	9	2,251	2.9	27,948	.14	12.4
1974	6,074	27.1	14	2,778	3.5	47,991	.24	17.3
1975	5,031	26.8	11	1,746	2.2	31,237	.16	17.9
1976	5,648	28.0	11	2,420	3.0	37,859	.19	15.6
1977	5,506	29.3	14	2,040	2.4	35,822	.17	17.6

---

[1] The number of stoppages and workers relate to those stoppages that began in the year; average duration, to those ending in the year. Days of idleness include all stoppages in effect. Workers are counted more than once if they were involved in more than 1 stoppage during the year.

Available information for earlier periods appears in *Handbook of Labor Statistics, 1975 Reference Edition*, BLS Bulletin 1865 (1975), tables 159-64. For a discussion of the procedures involved in the collection and compilation of work stoppage statistics, see BLS *Handbook of Methods*, BLS Bulletin 1910 (1976), chapter 27.

[2] Figures are simple averages; each stoppage is given equal weight regardless of its size.

[3] Agricultural and government employees are included in the total employed and total working time; private household, forestry, and fishery employees are excluded. An explanation of the measurement of idleness as a percent of the total employed labor force and of the total time worked is found in " 'Total Economy' Measure of Strike Idleness," *Monthly Labor Review*, Oct. 1968.

[4] Not available.

Table 2. Work stoppages by month, 1976-77

(Workers and days idle in thousands)

Month	Stoppages				Workers involved				Days idle during month		
	Beginning in month		In effect during month		Beginning in month		In effect during month		Number	Percent	Percent of est. total working time 1/
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent			
1976	5,648	100.0	10,089	100.0	2,420	100.0	3,961	100.0	37,859	100.0	.19
January	338	6.0	612	6.1	76.8	3.2	136.2	3.4	1,200.3	3.2	.07
February	362	6.4	615	6.1	96.2	4.0	138.5	3.5	1,029.5	2.7	.07
March	443	7.8	679	6.7	157.3	6.5	199.3	5.0	1,762.3	4.7	.10
April	591	10.5	894	8.9	464.7	19.2	530.2	13.4	3,133.1	8.3	.18
May	572	10.1	921	9.1	163.8	6.8	295.4	7.5	3,596.7	9.5	.22
June	577	10.2	1,007	10.0	231.3	9.6	372.5	9.4	4,388.4	11.6	.24
July	505	8.9	960	9.5	291.7	12.1	490.1	12.4	5,144.9	13.6	.30
August	480	8.5	937	9.3	171.1	7.1	409.5	10.3	4,557.4	12.0	.26
September	521	9.2	972	9.6	339.8	14.0	466.3	11.8	4,847.7	12.8	.28
October	559	9.9	1,024	10.1	151.5	6.3	428.7	10.8	4,348.2	11.5	.28
November	452	8.0	861	8.5	200.6	8.3	326.2	8.2	2,391.1	6.3	.14
December	248	4.4	607	6.0	75.2	3.1	168.0	4.2	1,459.4	3.9	.08
1977	5,506	100.0	9,971	100.0	2,040	100.0	3,327	100.0	35,822	100.0	.17
January	384	7.0	649	6.5	104.9	5.1	158.3	4.8	1,297.0	3.6	.08
February	375	6.8	645	6.5	144.6	7.1	197.6	5.9	1,474.7	4.1	.10
March	522	9.5	816	8.2	205.0	10.0	285.1	8.6	2,409.7	6.7	.13
April	602	10.9	931	9.3	183.9	9.0	273.6	8.2	2,518.5	7.0	.15
May	689	12.5	1,070	10.7	255.7	12.5	366.4	11.0	3,322.8	9.3	.19
June	599	10.9	1,035	10.4	158.3	7.8	295.8	8.9	2,972.5	8.3	.16
July	493	9.0	946	9.5	199.0	9.8	306.8	9.2	3,212.1	9.0	.19
August	481	8.7	930	9.3	199.9	9.8	334.6	10.1	3,995.0	11.2	.21
September	485	8.8	923	9.3	152.1	7.5	278.3	8.4	3,085.3	8.6	.17
October	408	7.4	822	8.2	156.9	7.7	289.7	8.7	3,346.9	9.3	.21
November	335	6.1	719	7.2	80.1	3.9	232.7	7.0	3,157.9	8.8	.18
December	133	2.4	485	4.9	199.9	9.8	307.9	9.3	5,029.4	14.0	.28

See footnote 3, table 1.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.

Table 3. Work stoppages by size, 1977

(Workers and days idle in thousands)

Number of workers involved	Stoppages beginning in year				Days idle during year (all stoppages)	
	Stoppages		Workers involved			
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All stoppages	5,506	100.0	2,040.1	100.0	35,821.8	100.0
6 and under 20	700	12.7	8.4	.4	203.7	.6
20 and under 100	2,141	38.9	109.9	5.4	2,274.4	6.3
100 and under 250	1,270	23.1	200.0	9.8	3,935.0	11.0
250 and under 500	707	12.8	249.3	12.2	3,942.2	11.0
500 and under 1,000	390	7.1	260.6	12.8	4,208.4	11.7
1,000 and under 5,000	252	4.6	495.4	24.3	8,681.7	24.2
5,000 and under 10,000	28	.5	185.8	9.1	2,690.7	7.5
10,000 and over	18	.3	530.7	26.0	9,885.6	27.6

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal toals.

Table 4. Work stoppages involving 10,000 workers or more, 1927-77

(Workers and days idle in thousands)

Year	Number of work stoppages	Workers involved		Days idle during year		
		Number	Percent of total for year	Number	Percent of total for year	Percent of est. total working time 1/
1927	1	165	50.0	9,737	37.2	0.14
1928	5	137	43.6	10,086	80.0	.14
1929	1	15	5.2	195	3.6	(2)
1930	1	30	16.4	270	8.1	(2)
1931	6	122	37.7	1,954	28.4	.03
1932	7	140	43.2	5,337	50.8	.12
1933	17	429	36.7	5,199	30.7	.11
1934	18	725	49.3	7,488	38.2	.15
1935	9	516	46.1	4,523	29.2	.08
1936	8	169	21.4	2,893	20.8	.04
1937	26	528	28.4	9,110	32.1	.14
1938	2	39	5.7	171	1.9	(2)
1939	8	572	48.9	5,731	32.2	.09
1940	4	57	9.9	331	4.9	(2)
1941	29	1,070	45.3	9,344	40.6	.13
1942	6	74	8.8	245	5.9	(2)
1943	10	737	37.2	9,427	69.8	.10
1944	16	350	16.5	1,259	14.4	.01
1945	42	1,350	38.9	19,300	50.7	.24
1946	31	2,920	63.6	66,400	57.2	.82
1947	15	1,030	47.5	17,700	51.2	.21
1948	20	870	44.5	18,900	55.3	.20
1949	18	1,920	63.2	34,900	69.0	.41
1950	22	738	30.7	21,700	56.0	.25
1951	19	457	20.6	5,680	24.8	.57
1952	35	1,690	47.8	36,900	62.6	.36
1953	28	650	27.1	7,270	25.7	.07
1954	18	437	28.5	7,520	33.3	.07
1955	26	1,210	45.6	12,300	43.4	.11
1956	12	758	39.9	19,600	59.1	.17
1957	13	283	20.4	3,050	18.5	.26
1958	21	823	40.0	10,600	44.2	.10
1959	20	845	45.0	50,800	73.7	.45
1960	17	384	29.2	7,140	37.4	.06
1961	14	601	41.4	4,950	30.4	.04
1962	16	318	25.8	4,800	25.8	.04
1963	7	102	10.8	3,540	22.0	.03
1964	18	607	37.0	7,990	34.8	.06
1965	21	387	25.0	6,070	26.0	.05
1966	26	600	30.7	7,290	28.7	.05
1967	28	1,340	46.5	21,400	50.7	.15
1968	32	994	37.5	20,514	41.8	.12
1969	25	668	26.9	17,853	41.6	.10
1970	34	1,653	50.0	35,440	53.4	.20
1971	29	1,901	58.0	23,152	48.6	.13
1972	18	390	22.7	7,499	27.7	.04
1973	25	713	31.7	6,062	21.7	.03
1974	27	836	30.1	12,914	26.8	.06
1975	20	474	27.2	7,482	24.0	.04
1976	23	1,030	42.6	14,043	37.1	.07
1977	18	531	26.5	9,886	27.6	.05

[1] See footnote 3, table 1.

[2] Less than 0.005 percent.

Table 5. Work stoppages by industry group, 1977

(Workers and days idle in thousands)

Industry group	Stoppages beginning in year			Days idle during year (all stoppages)	
	Number	Mean duration (days) 1/	Workers involved	Number	Percent of est. total working time 2/
All stoppages	5,506	22.8	2,040.1	35,821.8	0.17
Manufacturing	2,537	29.4	787.7	18,331.4	.37
Ordnance and accessories	3	35.6	1.8	46.3	.12
Food and kindred products	221	37.3	54.0	1,501.4	.35
Tobacco manufactures	6	33.1	7.4	167.6	.95
Textile mill products	40	26.3	4.3	86.4	.03
Apparel, etc. 3/	65	20.7	10.3	182.7	.06
Lumber and wood products, except furniture	78	16.2	19.5	340.7	.21
Furniture and fixtures	93	26.3	10.7	202.8	.16
Paper and allied products	82	26.8	24.1	507.8	.29
Printing, publishing, and allied industries	57	32.8	9.7	241.2	.09
Chemicals and allied products	111	45.8	19.3	636.0	.24
Petroleum refining and related industries	23	38.2	6.3	172.3	.33
Rubber and miscellaneous plastics products	88	31.3	14.7	343.4	.20
Leather and leather products	18	55.3	6.4	248.9	.37
Stone, clay, and glass products	139	28.8	44.8	987.8	.60
Primary metal industries	239	26.7	90.6	2,166.8	.71
Fabricated metal products 4/	354	29.7	57.2	1,466.0	.40
Machinery, except electrical	451	28.4	139.6	3,266.9	.59
Electrical machinery, equipment, and supplies	199	17.2	76.2	1,076.3	.22
Transportation equipment	190	32.9	172.5	4,185.6	.92
Instruments, etc. 5/	39	35.2	8.7	216.4	.16
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries	48	37.9	9.5	288.1	.27
Nonmanufacturing	2,970	18.2	1,252.3	17,485.8	.11
Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries	10	29.9	1.1	23.7	.01
Mining	999	13.1	676.4	7,280.5	3.48
Contract construction	486	21.3	217.5	3,284.4	.34
Transportation, communication, electric, gas, and sanitary services	303	44.0	56.1	2,157.1	.19
Wholesale and retail trade	486	27.1	86.3	1,988.0	.04
Finance, insurance, and real estate	23	30.7	2.8	96.6	.01
Services	250	25.1	41.9	889.8	.02
Government 6/	413	15.0	170.2	1,765.7	.05

---

[1] Mean duration is calculated only for stoppages ending in the year, and is weighted by multiplying the duration of each stoppage by the workers involved.

[2] See footnote 3, table 1.

[3] Includes other finished products made from fabrics and similar materials.

[4] Exludes ordnance, machinery, and transportation equipment.

[5] Includes professional, scientific, and controlling instruments; photographic and optical goods; watches and clocks.

[6] The stituations reported here have, for statistical purposes, been deemed to fall within the Bureau's definition of a work stoppage. This decision does not constitute a legal determination that a work stoppage has taken place in violation of any law or public policy.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.

Table 6. Work stoppages by duration, 1977[1]

(Workers and days idle in thousands)

Duration	Stoppages ending in year					
	Stoppages		Workers involved		Days idle (all stoppages)	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All stoppages	5,535	100.0	1,860.0	100.0	31,904.6	100.0
1 day	730	13.2	173.1	9.3	173.1	.5
2 to 3 days	617	11.1	183.9	9.9	350.6	1.1
4 to 6 days	549	9.9	199.7	10.7	705.7	2.2
7 to 14 days	975	17.6	307.1	16.5	1,956.6	6.1
15 to 29 days	1,014	18.3	354.1	19.0	4,863.9	15.2
30 to 59 days	885	16.0	334.8	18.0	7,698.1	24.1
60 to 89 days	350	6.3	123.1	6.6	5,146.8	16.1
90 days and over	415	7.5	184.3	9.9	11,009.8	34.5

---

[1] Totals in this table differ from those in preceding tables because these stoppages ended during the year, and thus include idleness occurring in prior years.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.

Table 7. Work stoppages by major issue, 1977

(Workers and days idle in thousands)

Major issue	Stoppages beginning in year				Days idle during year (all stoppages)	
	Stoppages		Workers involved			
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All stoppages	5,506	100.0	2,040.1	100.0	35,821.8	100.0
General wage changes	3,135	56.9	899.5	44.1	21,694.8	60.6
General wage increase	902	16.4	209.8	10.3	3,956.5	11.0
General wage increase plus supplementary benefits	1,838	33.4	526.6	25.8	13,872.9	38.7
General wage increase, hour decrease	7	.1	.9	(1)	16.2	(1)
General wage decrease	2	(1)	.1	(1)	1.4	(1)
Cost-of-living increase	29	.5	8.3	.4	239.1	.7
General wage and cost-of-living increase	140	2.5	53.7	2.6	1,798.7	5.0
Wages and working conditions	217	3.9	100.2	4.9	1,809.9	5.1
Supplementary benefits	78	1.4	22.8	1.1	453.5	1.3
Pensions, insurance, and other welfare programs	40	.7	10.0	.5	279.4	.8
Severance or dismissal pay, and other payments on layoff or separation	-	-	-	-	(1)	(1)
Premium pay	16	.3	2.2	.1	42.0	.1
Other	22	.4	10.6	.5	132.1	.4
Wage adjustments	141	2.6	65.3	3.2	1,625.3	4.5
Incentive pay rates or administration	28	.5	29.2	1.4	1,501.3	4.2
Job classification or rates	60	1.1	12.8	.6	66.5	.2
Downgrading	3	.1	.3	(1)	15.4	(1)
Retroactivity	3	.1	.1	(1)	.8	(1)
Method of computing pay	47	.9	22.8	1.1	41.3	.1
Hours of work	15	.3	2.8	.1	84.8	.2
Increase	5	.1	2.1	.1	19.5	.1
Decrease	10	.2	.7	(1)	65.4	.2
Other contractual matters	276	5.0	71.4	3.5	1,350.7	3.8
Duration of contract	15	.3	1.6	.1	71.4	.2
Local issues supplementing national contract	16	.3	29.8	1.5	116.7	.3
Unspecified	245	4.4	39.9	2.0	1,162.6	3.2
Union organization and security	252	4.6	41.2	2.0	955.0	2.7
Recognition (certification)	69	1.3	4.9	.2	121.4	.3
Recognition and job or union security issues	18	.3	1.5	.1	40.1	.1
Recognition and economic issues	6	.1	.1	(1)	3.5	(1)
Strengthening bargaining position and economic issues	49	.9	10.2	.5	449.2	1.3
Union security	39	.7	8.9	.4	175.8	.5
Refusal to sign agreement	48	.9	12.7	.6	156.9	.4
Other	23	.4	2.9	.1	8.1	(1)
Job security	211	3.8	99.8	4.9	1,708.9	4.8
Seniority and/or layoff	57	1.0	34.3	1.7	405.8	1.1
Division of work	6	.1	1.1	.1	4.9	(1)
Subcontracting	16	.3	2.9	.1	19.5	.1
New machinery or other technological issues	5	.1	16.0	.8	311.4	.9
Job transfers, bumping, etc.	6	.1	.9	(1)	16.3	(1)
Transfer of operations or prefabricated goods	1	(1)	(1)	(1)	.1	(1)
Job security and economic issues	68	1.2	33.8	1.7	909.3	2.5
Other	52	.9	10.8	.5	41.5	.1
Plant administration	1,002	18.2	696.8	34.2	7,249.2	20.2
Physical facilities, surroundings, etc.	123	2.2	30.7	1.5	245.4	.7
Safety measures, dangerous equipment, etc.	135	2.5	48.3	2.4	123.3	.3
Supervision	61	1.1	25.0	1.2	107.6	.3
Shift work	35	.6	8.3	.4	33.6	.1
Work assignments	112	2.0	31.9	1.6	160.1	.4
Speedup (workload)	31	.6	14.5	.7	380.6	1.1
Work rules	50	.9	105.4	5.2	837.7	2.3
Overtime work	54	1.0	17.7	.9	156.5	.4
Discharge and discipline	205	3.7	253.3	12.4	3,374.4	9.4
Other	196	3.6	161.9	7.9	1,829.9	5.1
Other working conditions	137	2.5	62.7	3.1	338.8	.9
Arbitration	22	.4	18.3	.9	151.3	.4
Grievance procedures	34	.6	17.2	.8	97.5	.3
Unspecified contract violations	81	1.5	27.2	1.3	90.0	.3
Interunion or intraunion matters	246	4.5	77.1	3.8	335.4	.9
Union rivalry 2/	2	(1)	.2	(1)	1.1	(1)
Jurisdiction-representation of workers 3/	3	.1	.1	(1)	.5	(1)
Jurisdiction-work assignment	136	2.5	20.7	1.0	63.7	.2
Union administration 4/	14	.3	7.6	.4	11.1	(1)
Sympathy	91	1.7	48.6	2.4	259.1	.7
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not reported	13	.2	.5	(1)	25.4	.1

---

[1] Less than 0.05 percent.

[2] Includes disputes between unions of different affiliation, such as those of AFL-CIO affiliates and independent organizations.

[3] Includes disputes between unions, usually of the same affiliation or between 2 locals of the same union, over representation of workers.

[4] Includes disputes within a union over the administration of union affairs or regulations.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals. Dashes (-) denote zeros.

Table 8. Work stoppages by affiliation of unions involved, 1977

(Workers and days idle in thousands)

Affiliation	Stoppages beginning in year				Days idle during year (all stoppages)	
	Stoppages		Workers involved			
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All stoppages	5,506	100.0	2,040.1	100.0	35,821.8	100.0
AFL-CIO	3,045	55.3	949.6	46.5	22,960.1	64.1
Unaffiliated unions	2,162	39.3	997.0	48.9	11,759.3	32.8
Single firm unions	30	.5	5.7	.3	59.8	.2
Different affiliations 1/	22	.4	13.5	.7	253.2	.7
Professional employee associations	185	3.4	69.9	3.4	734.3	2.0
No union involved	62	1.1	4.3	.2	55.1	.2

[1] Includes work stoppages involving either 1 or more unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO and 1 or more unaffiliated unions, or 2 or more unaffiliated unions.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.

Table 9. Work stoppages by type of settlement, 1977[1]

(Workers and days idle in thousands)

Type of settlement	Stoppages ending in year					
	Stoppages		Workers involved		Days idle during year (all stoppages)	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All stoppages	5,535	100.0	1,860.0	100.0	31,904.6	100.0
Formal settlement reached, all issues resolved, procedure for handling unresolved issues	4,180	75.5	1,393.4	74.9	26,922.7	84.4
No formal settlement, short protest or sympathy strike	803	14.5	240.1	12.9	743.6	2.3
Strike broken	143	2.6	140.5	7.6	2,032.6	6.4
Work resumed under court injunction	54	1.0	30.9	1.7	105.1	.3
Employer out of business	29	.5	17.6	.9	443.2	1.4
No information	326	5.9	37.5	2.0	1,657.4	5.2

[1] Totals in this table differ from those in preceding tables (except table 6) because these stoppages ended during the year, and thus include idleness occurring in prior years.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.

Table 10. Work stoppages by State and metropolitan area, 1977[1]

(Workers and days idle in thousands)

State and metropolitan area	Stoppages beginning in year		Days idle during year (all stoppages)
	Number	Workers involved	
All stoppages	5,506	2,040.1	35,821.8
Alabama	138	64.6	1,059.4
Birmingham	35	8.7	384.6
Mobile	7	2.0	59.7
Tuscaloosa	5	1.5	53.5
Alaska	11	2.5	102.4
Anchorage	6	1.7	80.3
Arizona	27	13.5	304.3
Phoenix	16	1.8	21.2
Arkansas	24	3.5	69.9
Fort Smith, AR-OK	5	.7	33.9
Little Rock-North Little Rock	6	.7	5.5
California	409	144.0	2,911.1
Anaheim-Santa Ana-Garden Grove	19	4.9	43.7
Bakersfield	6	1.7	17.9
Fresno	11	1.1	21.0
Los Angeles-Long Beach	128	42.0	1,321.6
Marin county	6	.7	5.4
Oakland-East Bay	74	30.3	578.3
Oxnard-Simi Valley-Ventura	5	1.3	8.8
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario	25	6.0	112.9
Sacramento	21	5.6	65.9
Salinas-Seaside-Monterey	6	.8	7.6
San Diego	17	10.1	72.4
San Francisco	19	10.4	138.6
San Jose	23	9.0	256.9
San Mateo county	21	1.2	16.5
Santa Barbara-Santa Maria-Lompoc	5	1.2	6.8
Santa Rosa	8	1.0	21.8
Stockton	15	2.5	39.2
Vallejo-Fairfield-Napa	6	1.1	5.8
Colorado	47	8.3	184.6
Denver-Boulder	26	3.5	123.3
Pueblo	9	.8	24.3
Connecticut	65	13.9	292.8
Bridgeport	11	1.1	16.7
Hartford	16	3.1	93.3
New Haven-West Haven	18	3.2	111.1
Waterbury	6	2.7	38.4
Delaware	20	4.0	41.3
Wilmington, DE-MD-NJ	18	4.0	43.1
Delaware portion	16	3.6	39.8
District of Columbia	14	1.5	35.2
Washington, DC-MD-VA	23	2.5	55.3
District of Columbia portion	14	1.5	35.2
Maryland portion	9	1.0	20.0
Florida	56	11.1	428.5
Jacksonville	7	2.6	78.1
Miami	13	2.1	145.8
Orlando	7	.5	10.0
Tampa-St. Petersburg	14	2.2	90.3
Georgia	58	22.6	546.3
Atlanta	23	17.3	377.9
Macon	6	.5	12.6
Savannah	6	1.2	42.2
Hawaii	8	14.7	666.0
Honolulu	8	14.7	666.0
Idaho	13	3.5	188.8
Illinois	420	196.8	2,245.6
Bloomington-Normal	5	2.2	18.3
Chicago Northwestern Indiana Standard Consolidated Area	148	38.8	779.2
Chicago 2/	132	32.4	619.7
Decatur	10	7.2	154.5
Peoria	23	6.3	184.1
Rockford	8	1.4	31.7
Springfield	5	2.9	47.0
Indiana	234	95.3	1,611.8
Anderson	10	13.7	186.3
Evansville, IN-KY	7	3.3	57.9
Indiana portion	7	3.3	57.9
Fort Wayne	28	4.7	88.7
Gary-Hammond-East Chicago 2/	17	6.4	159.5
Indianapolis	38	21.8	283.4
Lafayette-West Lafayette	5	0.3	4.0
South Bend	17	3.8	83.5
Terre Haute	11	1.0	10.4
Iowa	98	30.1	651.7
Cedar Rapids	7	4.4	82.3
Davenport-Rock Island-Moline, IA-IL	20	11.6	76.1
Iowa portion	7	2.3	34.8
Illinois portion	14	9.2	41.4
Des Moines	19	9.9	262.2
Dubugue	8	1.2	16.3
Sioux City, IA-NE	8	4.6	388.5
Iowa portion	7	2.8	28.5
Waterloo-Cedar Falls	8	2.4	39.5
Kansas	28	7.8	175.8
Topeka	8	.6	4.3
Wichita	6	3.8	106.5
Kentucky	164	70.4	1,221.0
Lexington-Fayette	6	2.2	37.6
Louisville, KY-IN	37	17.9	304.2
Kentucky portion	33	13.7	195.7
Louisiana	26	6.5	140.6
New Orleans	8	2.1	48.8
Shreveport	5	.4	1.8
Maine	15	3.1	51.9
Portland	6	1.7	31.3
Maryland	43	12.2	126.4
Baltimore	30	9.4	81.5
Massachusetts	109	25.3	707.4
Boston	46	14.4	449.3
Fall River, MA-RI	7	.9	15.0
Massachusetts portion	7	.9	15.0
Fitchburg-Leominster	-	-	4.8
Pittsfield	9	.3	1.6
Springfield-Chicopee-Bolycke, MA-CT	15	5.9	126.3
Massachusetts portion	15	5.9	126.3
Worcester	12	1.9	68.3
Michigan	327	97.9	1,717.1
Ann Arbor	14	3.9	69.5
Battle Creek	12	2.9	56.1
Detroit	153	47.1	632.2
Flint	10	2.6	39.8
Grand Rapids	21	3.4	80.4
Jackson	6	.9	26.6
Kalamazoo-Portage	14	2.3	37.2
Lansing-East Lansing	16	3.7	59.1
Muskegon-Muskegon Heights	12	2.6	111.0
Saginaw	13	7.1	38.0
Minnesota	100	22.1	1,365.6
Duluth-Superior, MN-WI	14	1.7	58.6
Minnesota portion	12	1.2	48.5
Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI	59	6.4	246.7
Minnesota portion	59	6.4	246.7
Mississippi	22	3.9	132.9
Biloxi-Gulfport	6	.7	3.3
Jackson	5	.4	2.4
Missouri	148	43.0	869.0
Kansas City, MO-KS	34	12.6	286.2
Missouri portion	31	10.0	232.2
St. Louis, MO-IL	90	30.5	582.0
Missouri portion	65	22.3	382.3
Illinois portion	25	8.3	199.7
Springfield	19	4.4	118.1
Montana	29	9.7	117.4
Billings	10	2.3	20.6
Great Falls	6	1.8	32.2
Nebraska	16	3.7	389.8
Omaha, NE-IA	9	1.1	15.7
Nebraska portion	7	1.0	14.6
Nevada	18	5.7	81.7
Las Vegas	14	4.5	57.2
New Hampshire	7	1.2	6.2
New Jersey	212	39.4	790.2
Jersey City 3/	18	3.5	57.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 10. Work stoppages by State and metropolitan area, 1977[1]—Continued

(Workers and days idle in thousands)

State and metropolitan area	Stoppages beginning in year		Days idle during year (all stoppages)
	Number	Workers involved	
Long Branch-Asbury Park	10	1.2	26.6
New Brunswick-Perth Amboy-Sayreville 3/	22	5.3	196.9
Newark 3/	54	9.2	170.6
Paterson-Clifton-Passaic 3/	31	2.8	52.4
Trenton	12	1.4	20.7
Vineland-Millville-Bridgeton	5	2.8	56.5
New Mexico	17	4.1	55.3
Albuquerque	5	.7	7.2
New York	370	66.7	1,059.8
Albany-Schenectady-Troy	68	14.6	41.8
Buffalo	35	4.7	232.3
Elmira	6	2.0	28.2
Kingston-Newburgh	9	.6	5.4
Nassau-Suffolk counties 4/	44	3.5	62.6
New York City 4/	128	23.4	404.6
New York-Northeastern New Jersey Standard Consolidated Area	299	53.7	1,042.1
Poughkeepsie	7	.9	10.5
Rochester	16	3.0	28.7
Rockland county 4/	5	2.2	10.1
Syracuse	15	2.6	37.9
Westchester county 4/	20	3.9	87.3
North Carolina	22	6.9	141.4
Charlotte-Gastonia	9	1.7	44.3
North Dakota	5	.8	11.0
Ohio	556	218.8	3,573.7
Akron	30	7.4	159.5
Canton	35	10.0	185.2
Cincinnati, OH-KY-IN	55	10.8	177.8
Ohio portion	51	10.1	171.4
Cleveland	96	44.8	871.7
Columbus	36	7.3	131.9
Dayton	19	12.1	351.4
Hamilton-Middletown	8	2.5	40.7
Lima	11	5.2	110.4
Lorain-Elyria	8	1.6	28.5
Mansfield	6	1.3	26.6
Steubenville-Weirton, OH-WV	9	.9	33.1
West Virginia portion	5	.4	23.4
Toledo, OH-MI	41	13.5	162.2
Ohio portion	40	12.7	161.4
Youngstown-Warren	28	7.3	143.0
Oklahoma	40	4.3	102.7
Oklahoma City	11	1.0	11.9
Tulsa	14	1.7	47.0
Oregon	78	24.2	357.9
Eugene-Springfield	6	4.5	18.2
Portland, OR-WA	53	12.4	308.7
Oregon portion	43	10.8	237.7
Washington portion	10	1.6	71.0
Salem	6	.7	29.6
Pennsylvania	620	228.7	3,113.4
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, PA-NJ	39	7.5	103.4
Pennsylvania portion	36	7.1	101.1
Erie	16	3.2	53.8
Harrisburg	7	9.9	39.7
Johnstown	5	.5	13.3
Lancaster	5	.4	9.7
Northeast Pennsylvania 5/	29	3.1	75.3
Philadelphia, PA-NJ	126	54.1	830.7
Pennsylvania portion	97	45.5	675.2
New Jersey portion	30	8.6	155.5
Pittsburgh	135	22.1	634.3
Reading	19	4.2	57.4
Williamsport	12	2.5	135.6
York	8	1.6	23.3
Rhode Island	20	2.7	15.4
Providence-Warwick-Pawtucket, RI-MA	19	2.3	14.7
Rhode Island portion	18	2.3	14.6
South Carolina	5	1.4	14.9
South Dakota	7	1.2	45.1
Tennessee	98	24.3	862.5
Chattanooga, TN-GA	8	0.4	9.9
Tennessee portion	8	.4	9.9
Kingsport-Bristol, TN-VA	5	.6	20.6
Knoxville	13	1.5	76.0
Memphis, TN-MS-AR	24	2.5	73.2
Tennessee portion	23	2.5	73.1
Nashville-Davidson	11	2.8	162.0
Texas	107	40.2	1,083.8
Beaumont-Port Arthur-Orange	24	8.0	362.2
Dallas-Fort Worth	26	10.4	196.5
Galveston-Texas City	7	.9	32.5
Houston	22	8.2	190.1
Utah	20	11.1	204.5
Salt Lake City-Ogden	11	7.0	126.0
Vermont	6	.6	2.5
Virginia	147	62.0	755.3
Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Portsmouth, VA-NC	8	.5	22.0
Virginia portion	8	.5	22.0
Roanoke	10	1.6	15.4
Washington	111	60.5	1,417.0
Richland-Kennewick	8	.4	5.9
Seattle-Everett	38	37.6	1,029.6
Spokane	12	2.0	28.5
Tacoma	8	4.5	97.6
Yakima	6	1.2	16.7
West Virginia	445	240.2	2,548.6
Charleston	12	1.0	27.7
Huntington-Ashland, WV-KY-OH	21	6.6	177.6
West Virginia portion	9	3.5	54.3
Kentucky portion	9	1.6	80.5
Parkersburg-Marietta, WV-OH	10	2.6	94.8
Ohio portion	6	1.6	30.5
Wheeling, WV-OH	9	1.7	43.8
West Virginia portion	6	1.2	33.3
Wisconsin	119	59.3	1,132.3
Appleton-Oshkosh	6	1.8	111.4
Kenosha	8	1.4	59.1
La Crosse	5	.3	20.6
Madison	12	12.4	138.9
Milwaukee	33	21.5	444.5
Racine	14	7.5	110.7

---

[1] Includes data for each metropolitan area in which 5 stoppages or more began in 1977. Some metropolitan areas include the counties in more than 1 State, and hence, an area may equal or exceed the total for the State in which the major city is located. Stoppages in the logging and mining industries are excluded. Stoppages occurring in more than 1 metropolitan area are counted separately in each area affected; the workers involved and days idle are allocated to the respective areas.

[2] Included in the Chicago, Ill—Northwestern Indiana Standard Consolidated Area.

[3] Included in the New York—Northeastern New Jersey Standard Consolidated Area.

[4] Included in the New York City SMSA and New York—Northeastern New Jersey Standard Consolidated Area.

[5] Includes Scranton and Wilkes-Barre—Hazelton.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals. Dashes (-) denote zeros.

Table 11. Work stoppages by region and State, 1977[1]

(Workers and days idle in thousands)

Region and State	Stoppages beginning in year			Days idle during year (all stoppages)	
	Number	Mean duration (days) 2/	Workers involved	Number	Percent of est. non-agricultural working time 3/
United States	5,506	22.8	2,040.1	35,821.8	0.17
Region I	215	31.1	46.9	1,076.3	.09
Connecticut	65	26.2	13.9	292.8	.09
Maine	15	24.2	3.1	51.9	.05
Massachusetts	109	38.8	25.3	707.4	.12
New Hampshire	7	7.0	1.2	6.2	.01
Rhode Island	20	7.3	2.7	15.4	.02
Vermont	6	4.2	.6	2.5	.01
Region II	575	22.4	106.1	1,850.1	.08
New Jersey	212	27.4	39.4	790.2	.11
New York	370	19.3	66.7	1,059.8	.06
Region III	1,272	14.5	548.5	6,620.3	.28
Delaware	20	14.4	4.0	41.3	.07
District of Columbia	14	33.2	1.5	35.2	.02
Maryland	43	12.9	12.2	126.4	.03
Pennsylvania	620	15.4	228.7	3,113.4	.27
Virginia	147	18.2	62.0	755.3	.16
West Virginia	445	12.7	240.2	2,548.6	1.67
Region IV	543	26.8	205.3	4,406.9	.14
Alabama	138	18.5	64.6	1,059.4	.34
Florida	56	39.3	11.1	428.5	.06
Georgia	58	35.7	22.6	546.3	.11
Kentucky	164	20.3	70.4	1,221.0	.42
Mississippi	22	37.6	3.9	132.9	.07
North Carolina	22	26.7	6.9	141.4	.03
South Carolina	5	16.6	1.4	14.9	.01
Tennessee	98	45.1	24.3	862.5	.21
Region V	1,728	21.7	690.2	11,646.0	.26
Illinois	420	13.4	196.8	2,245.6	.19
Indiana	234	18.4	95.3	1,611.8	.31
Michigan	327	22.8	97.9	1,717.1	.20
Minnesota	100	86.5	22.1	1,365.6	.34
Ohio	556	21.3	218.8	3,573.7	.34
Wisconsin	119	26.8	59.3	1,132.3	.25
Region VI	209	35.2	58.5	1,452.2	.07
Arkansas	24	29.6	3.5	69.9	.04
Louisiana	26	31.8	6.5	140.6	.04
New Mexico	17	17.0	4.1	55.3	.05
Oklahoma	40	28.9	4.3	102.7	.04
Texas	107	38.3	40.2	1,083.8	.09
Region VII	288	34.4	84.7	2,086.3	.19
Iowa	98	30.7	30.1	651.7	.24
Kansas	28	32.6	7.8	175.8	.08
Missouri	148	27.0	43.0	869.0	.19
Nebraska	16	151.9	3.7	389.8	.26
Region VIII	106	23.4	31.3	654.5	.11
Colorado	47	28.2	8.3	184.6	.07
Montana	29	18.2	9.7	117.4	.18
North Dakota	5	12.8	.8	11.0	.02
South Dakota	7	51.5	1.2	45.1	.08
Utah	20	22.7	11.1	204.5	.17
Wyoming	2	15.6	.1	92.0	.22
Region IX	458	30.2	177.9	3,963.2	.16
Arizona	27	33.9	13.5	304.3	.15
California	409	26.4	144.0	2,911.1	.14
Hawaii	8	66.2	14.7	666.0	.74
Nevada	18	19.1	5.7	81.7	.11
Region X	205	27.5	90.7	2,066.0	.30
Alaska	11	51.6	2.5	102.4	.25
Idaho	13	67.0	3.5	188.8	.25
Oregon	78	17.8	24.2	357.9	.15
Washington	111	28.0	60.5	1,417.0	.42

---

[1] Stoppages extending across State lines are counted separately in each State affected; workers involved and days idle were allocated among the States.

[2] Mean duration is calculated only for stoppages ending in the year, and is weighted by multiplying the duration of each stoppage by the workers involved.

[3] Excludes private household workers.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.

Table 12. Work stoppages by contract status and major issue, 1977

(Workers and days idle in thousands)

Contract status and major issue	Stoppages beginning in year				Days idle during year (all stoppages)	
	Stoppages		Workers involved			
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All stoppages	5,506	100.0	2,040.1	100.0	35,821.8	100.0
Negotiation of first agreement	439	8.0	56.5	2.8	1,179.6	3.3
General wage changes	255	4.6	34.8	1.7	715.6	2.0
Supplementary benefits	3	.1	.1	(1)	1.2	(1)
Wage adjustments	8	.1	1.0	(1)	5.2	(1)
Hours of work	3	.1	.8	(1)	4.1	(1)
Other contractual matters	14	.3	.7	(1)	37.4	.1
Union organization and security	117	2.1	14.7	.7	338.3	.9
Job security	19	.3	2.5	.1	56.7	.2
Plant administration	14	.3	1.3	.1	16.1	(1)
Other working conditions	2	(1)	.1	(1)	.9	(1)
Interunion and intraunion matters	2	(1)	.4	(1)	1.5	(1)
Not reported	2	(1)	.1	(1)	2.6	(1)
Renegotiation of agreement (expiration or reopening)	3,256	59.1	1,270.0	62.3	29,937.2	83.6
General wage changes	2,691	48.9	834.6	40.9	20,458.1	57.1
Supplementary benefits	62	1.1	20.3	1.0	442.9	1.2
Wage adjustments	40	.7	27.6	1.4	1,506.4	4.2
Hours of work	10	.2	1.0	.1	77.7	.2
Other contractual matters	168	3.1	42.3	2.1	767.1	2.1
Union organization and security	77	1.4	18.6	.9	526.6	1.5
Job security	102	1.9	75.8	3.7	1,561.0	4.4
Plant administration	88	1.6	247.3	12.1	4,544.1	12.7
Other working conditions	10	.2	1.5	.1	47.7	.1
Interunion and intraunion matters	6	.1	.9	(1)	5.5	(1)
Not reported	2	(1)	.1	(1)	.1	(1)
During term of agreement (negotiation of new agreement not involved)	1,461	26.5	660.1	32.4	3,363.8	9.4
General wage changes	44	.8	10.5	.5	83.3	.2
Supplementary benefits	11	.2	2.2	.1	8.9	(1)
Wage adjustments	85	1.5	34.3	1.7	90.5	.3
Hours of work	1	(1)	1.0	(1)	2.9	(1)
Other contractual matters	14	.3	18.8	.9	48.1	.1
Union organization and security	21	.4	5.2	.3	19.6	.1
Job security	77	1.4	19.3	.9	74.8	.2
Plant administration	859	15.6	435.0	21.3	2,571.5	7.2
Other working conditions	121	2.2	59.7	2.9	198.7	.6
Interunion and intraunion matters	227	4.1	74.1	3.6	265.0	.7
Not reported	1	(1)	(1)	(1)	.5	(1)
No contract or other contract status	129	2.3	25.9	1.3	275.6	.8
General wage changes	40	.7	5.3	.3	48.4	.1
Supplementary benefits	1	(1)	.1	(1)	.2	(1)
Wage adjustments	5	.1	2.3	.1	22.0	.1
Hours of work	1	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Other contractual matters	4	.1	.9	(1)	57.6	.2
Union organization and security	27	.5	2.2	.1	25.6	.1
Job security	9	.2	2.1	.1	14.5	(1)
Plant administration	30	.5	11.0	.5	43.2	.1
Other working conditions	2	(1)	.1	(1)	.9	(1)
Interunion and intraunion matters	10	.2	1.7	.1	63.3	.2
Not reported	-	-	-	-	-	-
No information	221	4.0	27.6	1.4	1,065.6	3.0

[1] Less than 0.05.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals. Dashes (-) denote zeros.

Table 13. Work stoppages by industry group, first 9 months, **1977 and 1978**

(Workers and days idle in thousands)

Industry group	Stoppages beginning in period				Days idle during period (all stoppages)	
	Number		Workers involved			
	1977	1978[p]	1977	1978[p]	1977	1978[p]
All industries	[1]4,630	[1]3,364	1,603	1,326	24,288	32,291
Manufacturing	[1]2,126	[1]1,713	635	435	12,773	12,880
Ordnance and accessories	3	1	2	1	46	14
Food and kindred products	183	130	41	20	1,196	360
Tobacco manufactures	5	1	7	21	166	1
Textile mill products	34	37	3	9	66	210
Apparel, etc.[3]	53	37	8	3	111	125
Lumber and wood products, except furniture	74	65	19	15	287	246
Furniture and fixtures	80	51	9	8	151	173
Paper and allied products	69	80	20	31	315	1,105
Printing, publishing, and allied industries	43	27	8	24	223	357
Chemicals and allied products	94	88	13	13	493	594
Petroleum refining and related industries	21	15	6	6	166	80
Rubber and miscellaneous plastics products	69	71	12	14	272	344
Leather and leather products	16	6	5	1	241	35
Stone, clay, and glass products	130	121	43	20	695	458
Primary metal industries	193	148	76	34	1,497	1,672
Fabricated metal products[4]	294	304	46	51	1,100	1,388
Machinery, except electrical	378	219	123	64	2,543	1,844
Electrical machinery, equipment, and supplies	161	146	62	58	859	1,231
Transportation equipment	161	119	114	53	1,973	2,335
Instruments, etc.[5]	32	23	8	7	145	204
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries	40	24	8	3	227	105
Nonmanufacturing	[1]2,506	[1]1,651	969	891	11,515	19,411
Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries	9	11	1	1	23	22
Mining	865	179	476	86	3,520	10,027
Contract construction	436	330	204	149	2,754	1,731
Transportation, communication, electric, gas, and sanitary services	243	222	39	366	1,581	2,811
Wholesale and retail trade	393	378	72	107	1,509	2,344
Finance, insurance, and real estate	17	20	2	7	34	216
Services	202	195	34	30	573	618
Government[6]	341	317	142	146	1,522	1,641

---

[1] The number of stoppages reported for a major industry group or division may not equal the sum of its components because individual stoppages occurring in 2 or more groups have been counted in each. Workers involved and days idle have been allocated among the respective groups.

[2] Fewer than 500 workers.

[3] Includes other finished products made from fabrics and similar materials.

[4] Excludes ordnance, machinery, and transportation equipment.

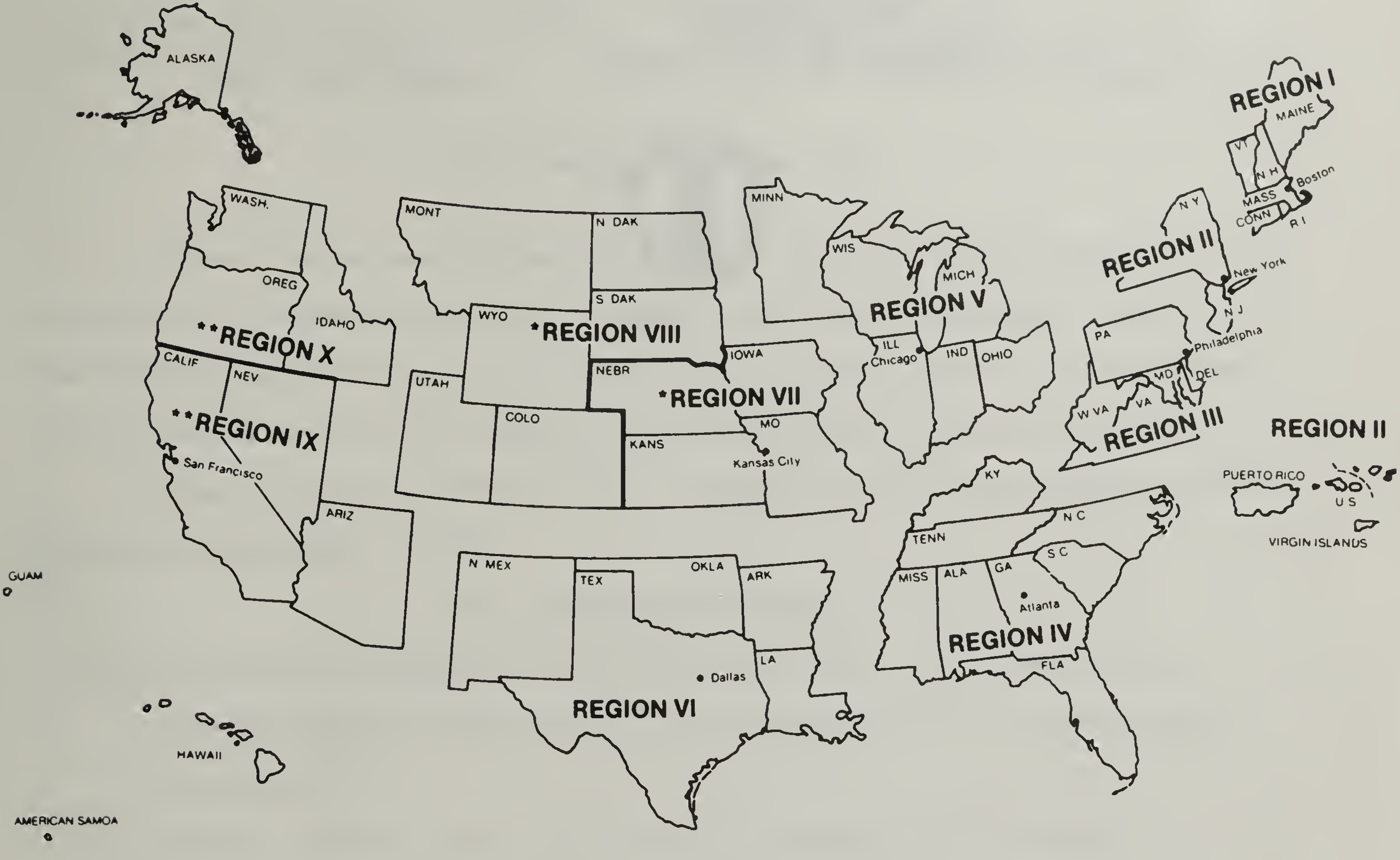
[5] Includes professional, scientific, and controlling instruments; photographic and optical goods; watches and clocks.

[6] The situations reported here have, for statistical purposes, been deemed to fall within the Bureau's definition of a work stoppage. This decision does not constitute a legal determination that a work stoppage has taken place in violation of any law or public policy.

p=preliminary

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.

Bureau of Labor Statistics Regional Offices



Region I
1603 JFK Federal Building
Government Center
Boston, Mass. 02203
Phone: (617) 223-6761

Region II
Suite 3400
1515 Broadway
New York, N.Y 10036
Phone: (212) 399-5405

Region III
3535 Market Street
P.O. Box 13309
Philadelphia, Pa 19101
Phone: (215) 596-1154

Region IV
1371 Peachtree Street, NE.
Atlanta, Ga. 30309
Phone: (404) 881-4418

Region V
9th Floor
Federal Office Building
230 S. Dearborn Street
Chicago, Ill 60604
Phone: (312) 353-1880

Region VI
Second Floor
555 Griffin Square Building
Dallas, Tex. 75202
Phone: (214) 749-3516

Regions VII and VIII*
911 Walnut Street
Kansas City, Mo. 64106
Phone: (816) 374-2481

Regions IX and X**
450 Golden Gate Avenue
Box 36017
San Francisco, Calif 94102
Phone: (415) 556-4678

* Regions VII and VIII are serviced by Kansas City

**Regions IX and X are serviced by San Francisco

GPO 939 604

U. S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington, D.C. 20212

Official Business
Penalty for private use, $300

Postage and Fees Paid
U.S. Department of Labor

Third Class Mail

Lab-441

U.S.MAIL

61820LABOF504EAA J313 1
INSTITUTE OF LABOR
& INDUSTRIAL REL. LIBRARY
504 E. ARMORY
CHAMPAIGN, ILLIONIS 61820

News United States Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics Washington, D.C. 20212

L. LeGrande (202) 523-1091
K. Hoyle (202) 523-1913
Home: 333-1384

USDL: 77-1103
FOR RELEASE: 11:00 A.M. E.S.T.
Wednesday, December 28, 1977

WORK STOPPAGES: November 1977

Idleness due to work stoppages in November was 0.23 percent of estimated working time (2.3 working days idle per thousand), according to preliminary estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. This rate was down from 0.24 in October, but was the highest percentage recorded for November since 1974.

During the first 11 months of 1977, idleness was 0.18 percent, slightly below the 1976 11-month rate of 0.20.

Total Stoppages in November

- Approximately 723 stoppages were in effect in November, the lowest monthly total since March of this year. It is also below the 861 strikes recorded in November 1976.
- An estimated 342,000 workers were involved in November 1977 stoppages, up from the 329,000 workers in October but below the 426,000 workers in November 1976.
- Days of idleness rose to 4.2 million, a 9 percent increase over the previous month's level. The most days idle during a month so far this year occurred in May, August, and November.
- The number of workers involved per strike in November was greater than in October, averaging 473 and 386 workers per stoppage, respectively. The November average, however, was below the 495 worker average computed for the month a year ago.
- Average strike duration (as measured by days of idleness per worker involved) was longer than any other month so far this year. At 12.2 days, walkouts were the longest for November since the 14.1 days recorded in 1970.

- Eight large strikes (involving 5,000 workers or more) were in effect in November (table 2). These disputes accounted for 27 percent of all workers involved in stoppages this month and 37 percent of all days idle. A year ago, large stoppages involved 51 percent of all strikers and 25 percent of all days idle. Four major walkouts continued into December.

Stoppages beginning in November

- Some 406 walkouts began in November, 74 fewer than in October.
- About 117,000 workers walked off their jobs during November, less than in any other month so far this year except January. This is significantly below the 201,000 workers who participated in new stoppages in November 1976 but almost double the 63,000 workers recorded in November 1975.
- In the first 11 months of 1976, 5,405 disputes started, involving 2.1 million workers. Between the first 11-month periods in 1976 and in 1977, the number of new stoppages rose 9 percent and the related number of workers fell 4 percent.

Days of idleness as a percent of estimated total working time is derived by dividing total estimated days of idleness by total estimated working time available. Worktime available is the product of the number of working days during the month and estimated employment in the total economy.

Table 1. Work stoppages, selected periods to November, 1977.

Period	Number of stoppages		Workers involved in stoppages		Days idle	
					In effect during month or year	
	Beginning in month or year	In effect during month	Beginning in month or year (thousands)	In effect during month (thousands)	Number (thousands)	Percent of estimated working time
First 11 Months						
1968	4,862	5,031	2,585	2,673	47,325	.29
1969	5,504	5,673	2,431	2,510	38,988	.23
1970	5,492	5,671	2,849	3,048	63,225	.38
1971	4,919	5,150	3,234	3,319	44,480	.27
1972	4,852	5,068	1,678	1,793	26,049	.15
1973	5,144	5,305	2,160	2,225	24,813	.14
1974	5,891	6,085	2,674	2,737	45,312	.25
1975	4,792	5,033	1,660	1,705	29,383	.16
1/1976	4,948	5,222	2,145	2,204	34,007	.20
2/1977	5,405	5,572	2,058	2,124	34,678	.18
November						
1968	327	617	130	306	2,431	.17
1969	324	611	131	368	4,308	.31
1970	340	695	84	552	7,798	.54
1971	315	562	235	453	5,034	.33
1972	327	595	85	202	1,351	.08
1973	350	671	230	351	3,026	.18
1974	353	742	251	352	3,807	.24
1975	300	656	63	143	1,737	.11
1/ 1976						
January	338	612	77	136	1,200	.07
February	362	615	96	139	1,030	.07
March	443	679	157	199	1,762	.10
April	591	894	465	530	3,133	.18
May	572	921	164	295	3,596	.22
June	577	1,007	231	373	4,388	.24
July	505	960	292	490	5,145	.30
August	480	937	171	410	4,557	.26
September	521	972	340	466	4,848	.28
October	559	1,024	152	429	4,348	.28
November	452	861	201	426	2,391	.14
December	248	607	75	168	1,459	.08
2/ 1977						
January	351	518	109	176	1,160	.07
February	314	549	158	260	1,356	.09
March	391	600	222	340	2,094	.11
April	615	850	202	308	3,045	.18
May	551	908	254	455	4,131	.24
June	664	968	205	362	3,292	.18
July	609	1,032	289	483	3,864	.23
August	458	904	155	405	4,359	.23
September	566	872	175	335	3,408	.19
October	480	853	171	329	3,810	.24
November	406	723	117	342	4,160	.23

[1] Revised.

[2] Preliminary.

All work stoppages known to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its various cooperating agencies, involving 6 or more workers and lasting a full day or shift or longer, are included in this table. Figures on "workers involved" and "days idle" cover all workers made idle for as long as one shift in establishments directly involved in a stoppage. They do not measure the indirect or secondary affects on other establishments or industries whose employees are made idle as a result of material or service shortages.

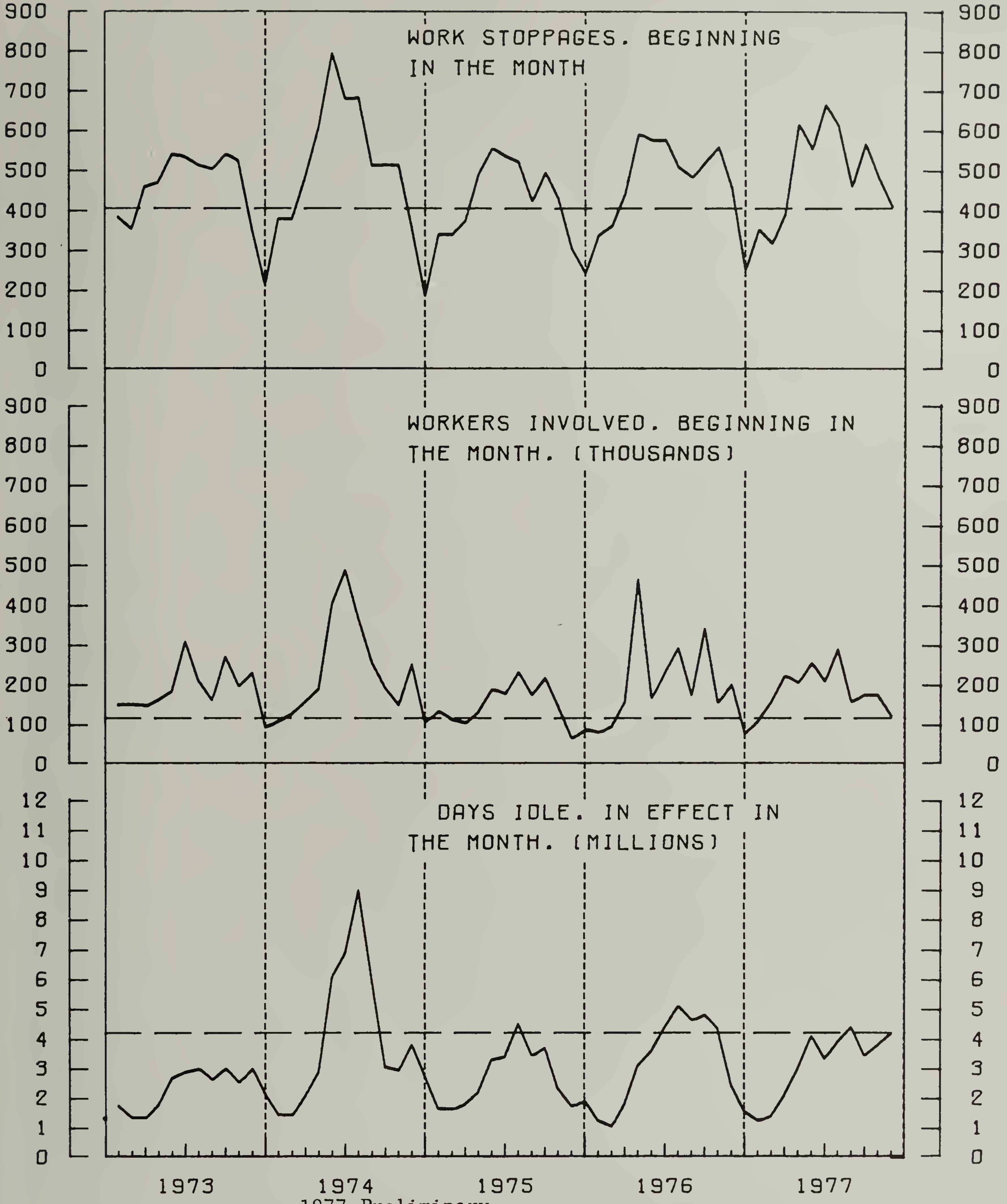
Table 2. Work stoppages involving 5,000 workers or more, November 1977

Company	Union [1]	Began	Ended	Workers involved [2]	Days idle [2]
Boeing Co. Interstate	IAM	10/4	11/17	21,400	278,000
Lockheed Corp. Interstate	IAM	10/10	---	19,000	381,000 [3]
Iron Ore Mining and Processing Industry Interstate	USA	8/1	---	14,500	287,800 [3]
Steel Fabricators and Erectors Assn. Honolulu, Hawaii	BSOIW	8/17	12/11 [4]	9,000	189,000
Sugar Companies Honolulu, Hawaii	LWU (Ind.)	11/2	11/21	9,000	126,000
Longshore Industry Interstate	ILA	10/1	11/30	7,000	147,000
Westinghouse Corp. Pittsburgh, Pa.	IUE	11/9	11/14	6,000	24,000
Pullman, Inc. Interstate	USA	10/1	---	5,900	123,300
			Totals:	91,800	1,556,100

---

[1] All of these unions are affiliated with the AFL-CIO, except where noted.
[2] Preliminary.
[3] Staggered idleness.
[4] The ending date was incorrectly reported in the previous month's release as having ended on 10/31.

CHART 1. NUMBER OF STOPPAGES, WORKERS INVOLVED,
AND DAYS IDLE, BY MONTH, 1973-77



1977 Preliminary

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

FIRST CLASS MAIL

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
LAB - 441

U.S.MAIL

313
Institute of Labor
& Industrial Rel. Library
504 E. Armory
Champaign, Illinois 61820

News United States Department of Labor

Bureau of Labor Statistics Washington, D.C. 20212

L. LeGrande (202) 523-1091
M. Klehm (202) 523-1091
K. Hoyle (202) 523-1913
Home: 333-1384

USDL: 77-1022
FOR RELEASE: 11:00 A.M. E.S.T.
Friday, November 25, 1977

WORK STOPPAGES: OCTOBER 1977 AND A 9-MONTH SUMMARY OF SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS

Idleness attributable to work stoppages in October was 0.24 percent of estimated total working time (2.4 working days idle per thousand), according to preliminary estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor. Except for 1976, this was the highest rate for October since 1971 (table 1). The number of work stoppages and workers involved declined from September to October, but days of idleness increased.

Idleness for the first 10 months of 1977 was 0.18 percent, slightly lower than the same period last year.

Total Stoppages in October

- An estimated 853 stoppages were in effect in October. Although this number is well below the 33-year high of 1,024 strikes reported a year ago, there have been more stoppages during the month in only 4 years since World War II.
- Approximately 329,000 workers were involved in these strikes, compared with 335,000 and 429,000 in September and in October 1976, respectively. With the exception of 1976, the number of workers involved was the highest during October since 1970.
- Days of idleness rose to 3.8 million in October, up from 3.4 million during the previous month, but 0.5 million below October 1976.
- After declining for 3 consecutive months, stoppages averaged 386 workers in October, slightly above the September level of 384.
- Average strike duration (as measured by days of idleness per worker involved) was higher in October than during any other month this year. At 11.6 days per walkout, strikes were the longest for the month since 1971.
- Eight large strikes (involving 5,000 workers or more) were in effect in October (table 2). These stoppages, five of which continued into November, accounted for 29 percent of all workers involved in disputes this month and 39 percent of all

days idle. Nearly half of the workers were involved from two walkouts in the aerospace industry, both of which remained unsettled at the end of the month. Some 59 percent of all workers involved in strikes and 55 percent of all days of idleness resulted from five large walkouts in October of 1976. An interstate walkout in the motor vehicle industry was responsible for most of the workers and days idle.

Stoppages beginning in October

- An estimated 480 stoppages began in October, compared with 566 during September and 559 in October 1976.
- About 171,000 workers participated in new stoppages in October, slightly less than in September, but more than the 152,000 idled during October 1976.
- In only 3 years since 1945 has the number of strikes started during the first 10 months of the year been greater than the 4,999 stoppages recorded thus far in 1977.

Characteristics of Work Stoppages, First 9 Months, 1976-77

A comparison of the distribution of work stoppages by industry in the first 9 months of 1976 and 1977 indicates some significant differences (table 3). The difference in the proportion of stoppages in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing narrowed in 1977, although manufacturing disputes represented less than one-half of the total in both years. Manufacturing industries continued to account for more than one-half of the total days of idleness, 63 percent in 1976 and 56 percent in 1977. In mining, the relative number of labor disputes declined by 9 percentage points from 1976. There was also a marked decrease in the proportion of workers who participated in stoppages in the transportation-communication industries, but the proportion of government workers involved in work stoppages more than doubled. While 19 percent of all days idle through September 1976 were recorded in the rubber industry, just 1 percent was attributable to that industry in 1977.

The number of days idle and the proportion of stoppages resulting from disagreements over general wage changes rose moderately to 73 percent and 59 percent, respectively, in 1977 (table 4). Workers who struck over the issue of wages in 1977, however, were relatively fewer than in 1976. Although the percentage of strikes over job security matters was fairly stable, the relative proportion of workers and days idle fell substantially.

There was little change in the distribution of stoppages by size (table 5). In the first 9 months of 1976 and 1977, less than 0.5 percent of all strikes involved 10,000 workers or more. In 1976, however, large stoppages accounted for considerably larger proportions of workers and days idle than in 1977.

Significant changes in the distribution of stoppages by duration were recorded in 1976 and 1977 (table 5). Proportionately, there were fewer stoppages of less than one week and of more than 90 days in 1977. There were relatively more labor disputes in effect from 15 to 59 days in 1977 than in 1976. Longer as well as larger strikes involving 5,000 workers or more accounted for the higher proportion of total idleness of 30 days or more in 1976. Eight of these stoppages contributed 29 percent of idleness in strikes of over 30 days in 1977 compared with the 36 percent in 1976.

Days of idleness as a percent of estimated total working time is derived by dividing total estimated days of idleness by total estimated working time available. Work-time available is the product of the number of working days during the month and estimated employment in the total economy.

Table 1. Work stoppages, selected periods to October 1977

Period	Number of stoppages		Workers involved in stoppages		Days idle	
					In effect during month or year	
	Beginning in month or year	In effect during month	Beginning in month or year (thousands)	In effect during month (thousands)	Number (thousands)	Percent of estimated working time
First 10 Months						
1968------------	4,535	4,704	2,455	2,543	44,895	.30
1969------------	5,180	5,349	2,300	2,379	34,680	.23
1970------------	5,152	5,331	2,766	2,965	55,427	.36
1971------------	4,604	4,835	2,999	3,085	39,466	.26
1972------------	4,525	4,741	1,594	1,708	24,698	.16
1973------------	4,794	4,955	1,930	1,994	22,787	.14
1974------------	5,538	5,732	2,423	2,486	41,504	.25
1975------------	4,492	4,733	1,597	1,643	27,647	.16
1/ 1976------------	4,948	5,222	2,145	2,204	34,007	.20
2/ 1977------------	4,999	5,166	1,941	2,007	30,517	.18
October						
1968------------	434	741	279	415	3,992	.25
1969------------	531	850	337	421	3,168	.19
1970------------	448	881	231	754	11,574	.73
1971------------	304	553	246	326	5,511	.36
1972------------	395	665	173	277	1,342	.09
1973------------	523	885	194	297	2,484	.15
1974------------	513	911	146	267	2,854	.17
1975------------	426	823	143	246	2,327	.14
1976 1/						
January	338	612	77	136	1,200	.07
February	362	615	96	139	1,030	.07
March	443	679	157	199	1,762	.10
April	591	894	465	530	3,133	.18
May	572	921	164	295	3,596	.22
June	577	1,007	231	373	4,388	.24
July	505	960	292	490	5,145	.30
August	480	937	171	410	4,557	.26
September	521	972	340	466	4,848	.28
October	559	1,024	152	429	4,348	.28
November	452	861	201	426	2,391	.14
December	248	607	75	168	1,459	.08
1977 2/						
January	351	518	109	176	1,160	.07
February	314	549	158	260	1,356	.09
March	391	600	222	340	2,094	.11
April	615	850	202	308	3,045	.18
May	551	908	254	455	4,131	.24
June	664	968	205	362	3,292	.18
July	609	1,032	289	483	3,864	.23
August	458	904	155	405	4,359	.23
September	566	872	175	335	3,408	.19
October	480	853	171	329	3,810	.24

1/ Revised.
2/ Preliminary.

All work stoppages known to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its various cooperating agencies, involving 6 or more workers and lasting a full day or shift or longer, are included in this table. Figures on "workers involved" and "days idle" cover all workers made idle for as long as one shift in establishments directly involved in a stoppage. They do not measure the indirect or secondary effects on other establishments or industries whose employees are made idle as a result of material or service shortages.

Table 2. Work stoppages involving 5,000 workers or more, October 1977

Company	Union [1]	Began	Ended	Workers involved [2]	Days idle [2]
Boeing Co. Interstate	IAM	10/4	--	25,000	450,000
Lockheed Corp. Interstate	IAM	10/10	--	19,000	236,000 [3]
Iron Ore Mining & Processing Industry Interstate	USA	8/1	--	15,000	285,000
Steel Fabricators & Erectors Assn. Honolulu, Hawaii	BSOIW	8/17	10/31	9,000	171,000
Glass Container Mfg. Institute Interstate	AFGW	9/16	10/13	8,500	68,000
Longshore Industry Interstate	ILA	10/1	--	7,000	133,000
Pullman Inc. Interstate	USA	10/1	--	6,600	125,400
General Dynamics Corp. Quincy, Mass.	IUMSW	7/18	10/11	5,200	31,200
			Totals:	95,300	1,499,600

---

[1] All of these unions are affiliated with the AFL-CIO.
[2] Preliminary.
[3] Staggered idleness.

Table 3. Percent distribution of work stoppages by industry, first 9 months, 1976-77 1/

Industry group	Work stoppages		Workers involved		Days idle	
	1976	1977p	1976	1977p	1976	1977p
All industries 2/	100	100	100	100	100	100
Manufacturing 2/	40	48	36	40	63	56
Ordnance and accessories	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Food and kindred products	4	4	4	3	5	10
Tobacco manufactures	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Textile mill products	1	1	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Apparel 4/	1	1	1	1	1	1
Lumber and wood products, except furniture	1	2	1	1	1	1
Furniture and fixture	1	2	(3)	1	1	1
Paper and allied products	2	2	1	2	1	2
Printing, publishing, and allied industries	1	1	1	(3)	1	1
Chemicals and allied products	2	2	1	1	2	2
Petroleum refining and related industries	(3)	1	(3)	(3)	(3)	1
Rubber and miscellaneous plastics products	2	1	4	1	19	1
Leather and leather products	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Stone, clay, and glass products	3	3	1	1	2	3
Primary metal industries	3	5	2	5	3	6
Fabricated metal products 5/	5	7	2	3	4	5
Machinery, except electrical	5	8	3	8	5	11
Electrical machinery, equipment, and supplies	4	4	5	5	6	4
Transportation equipment	3	4	9	7	10	6
Instruments, etc. 6/	1	1	(3)	1	(3)	1
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries	1	1	1	1	1	1

Table 3. Percent distribution of work stoppages by industry, first 9 months, 1976-77 1/---continued

Industry group	Work stoppages		Workers involved		Days idle	
	1976	1977p	1976	1977p	1976	1977p
Nonmanufacturing 2/	60	52	64	60	37	45
Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Mining	24	15	21	23	7	10
Contract construction	10	9	8	13	10	11
Transportation, communication, electric, gas, and sanitary services	7	6	19	3	8	6
Wholesale and retail trade	8	9	2	4	3	5
Finance, insurance, and real estate	(3)	(3)	1	(3)	1	(3)
Services	4	5	5	2	4	6
Government 7/	7	8	7	16	5	7

1/ The number of stoppages and workers involved relate to disputes that began in the period, days of idleness to all stoppages in effect.

2/ The number of stoppages reported for a division may not equal the sum of its components because individual stoppages occurring in two or more groups have been counted in each. Workers and days idle have been allocated among the respective groups.

3/ Less than 0.5 percent.

4/ Includes other finished products made from fabrics and similar materials.

5/ Excludes ordnance, machinery, and transportation equipment.

6/ Includes professional, scientific, and controlling instruments; photographic and optical goods; watches and clocks.

7/ The situations reported here have, for statistical purposes, been deemed to fall within the Bureau's definition of a work stoppage. This decision does not constitute a legal determination that a work stoppage has taken place in violation of any law or public policy.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.
Dash (-) denotes zero.
p=preliminary.

Table 4. Percent distribution of work stoppages by major issue, first 9 months, 1976-77 1/

Major issue	Work stoppages		Workers involved		Days idle	
	1976	1977p	1976	1977p	1976	1977p
All issues------------	100	100	100	100	100	100
General wage changes-------	52	59	53	49	69	73
Supplementary benefits-----	1	1	(2)	1	(2)	1
Wage adjustments----------	3	2	2	2	2	5
Hours of work--------------	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Other contractual matters--	2	2	1	4	1	4
Union organization and security-----------------	6	3	3	2	7	5
Job security---------------	6	4	16	6	12	4
Plant administration-------	22	22	21	26	8	7
Other working conditions---	4	2	2	3	1	1
Interunion and intraunion matters------------------	5	4	2	6	1	1
Not available--------------	1	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)

1/ The number of stoppages and workers involved relate to disputes that began in the period, days idle to all stoppages in effect.

2/ Less than 0.5 percent.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.
p=preliminary.

Table 5. Percent distribution of work stoppages by size, first 9 months, 1976-77 1/

Number of workers involved	Work stoppages		Workers involved		Days idle	
	1976	1977p	1976	1977p	1976	1977p
All stoppages	100	100	100	100	100	100
6 - 19	12	15	(2)	1	1	1
20 - 99	36	39	4	6	6	8
100 - 249	25	23	9	11	10	14
250 - 499	16	12	12	13	11	13
500 - 999	7	7	10	15	10	19
1,000 - 4,999	4	4	15	23	20	25
5,000 - 9,999	(2)	1	6	12	8	9
10,000 and over	(2)	(2)	44	21	36	11

1/ The number of stoppages and workers involved relate to those disputes beginning during the period, days idle to all stoppages in effect.

2/ Less than 0.5 percent.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals. p=preliminary.

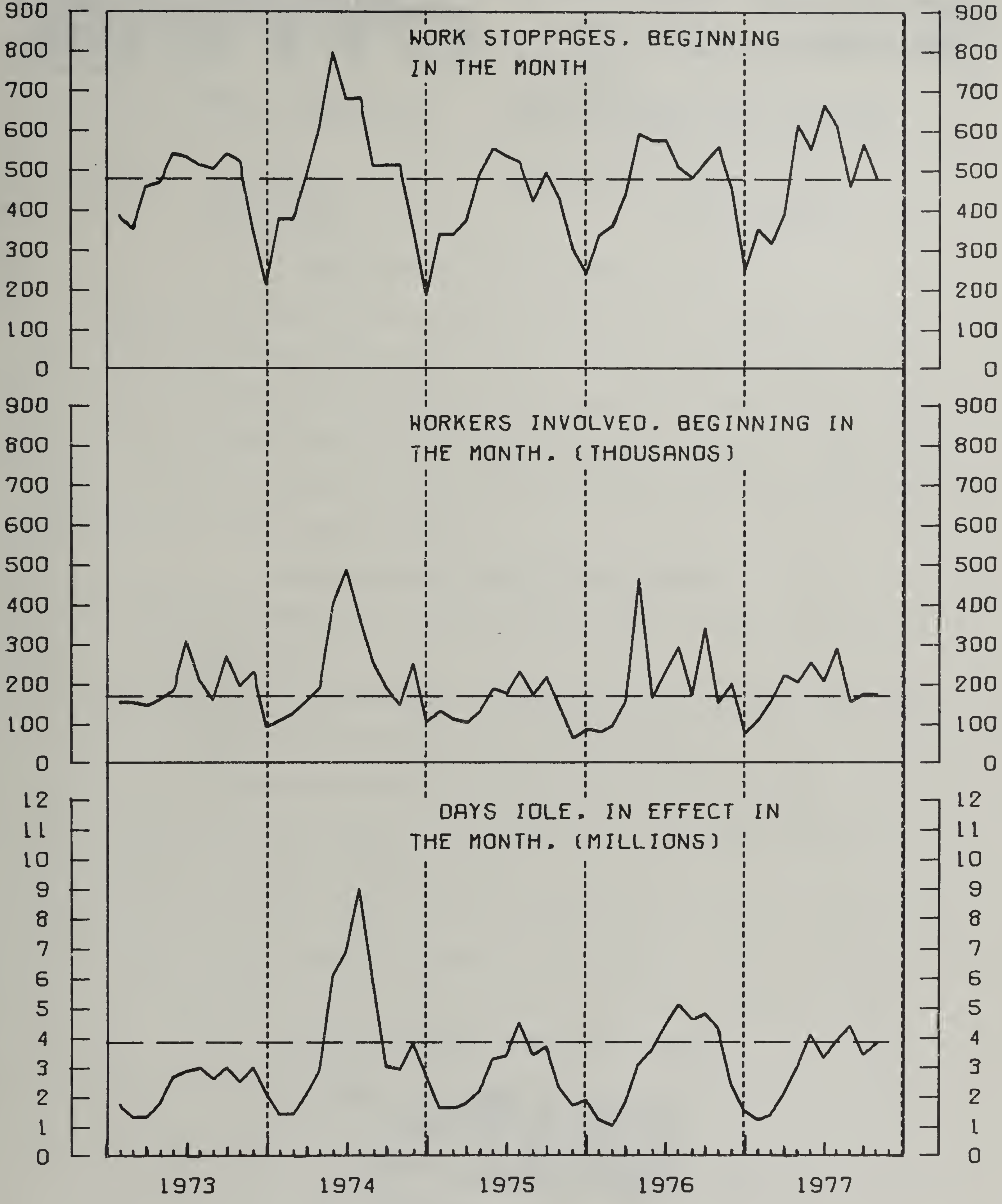
Table 6. Percent distribution of work stoppages by duration, first 9 months, 1976-77 1/

Duration	Stoppages ending in period					
	Number		Workers involved		Days idle	
	1976	1977p	1976	1977p	1976	1977p
All stoppages--------	100	100	100	100	100	100
1						
1 day---------------------	19	11	11	8	1	1
1 - 3 days----------------	12	9	24	10	3	1
4 - 6 days----------------	10	9	9	21	2	7
7 - 14 days---------------	17	16	16	14	7	7
15 - 29 days--------------	15	21	15	25	11	25
30 - 59 days--------------	13	27	14	19	18	37
60 - 89 days--------------	6	4	3	2	11	8
90 days and over----------	7	3	8	2	46	15

1/ Data refer to all stoppages ending during the period.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.
p=preliminary.

CHART 1. NUMBER OF STOPPAGES, WORKERS INVOLVED, AND DAYS IDLE, BY MONTH, 1973-77



1977 Preliminary

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

FIRST CLASS MAIL

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
LAB - 441

Institute of Labor 313
& Industrial Rel. Library
504 E. Armory
Champaign, Illionis 61820

News United States Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics Washington, D.C. 20212

Washington, D. C. 20212
L. LeGrande (202) 523-1091
K. Hoyle (202) 523-1913
Home: 333-1384

USDL: 77-940
FOR RELEASE: 11:00 A.M. E.S.T.
Monday, October 31, 1977

WORK STOPPAGES: First 9 Months of 1977

Idleness attributable to work stoppages during the first 9 months of 1977 was 0.17 percent of estimated total working time (1.7 days per thousand) compared with 0.19 percent recorded for the same period in 1976, according to preliminary estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor (table 1). There were 26.7 million days of idleness in the first 9 months of 1977, about 3.0 million days less than in the first 9 months of 1976.

Total stoppages during the first 9 months

- Some 4,686 work stoppages were in effect during the first 9 months of 1977, only 23 more than in 1976.
- An estimated 1.8 million workers were involved in these stoppages, compared with the 2.1 million workers during the first 9 months of 1976.
- Strikes through September averaged 392 workers in 1977 and 440 workers in 1976.
- The average duration of strikes was 14.5 days per worker involved, the same as stoppages in the first 9 months of 1976.
- Idleness resulting from strikes involving 5,000 workers or more was unusually low this year. These stoppages accounted for only 25 percent of total idleness in the first 9 months, compared with 43 percent in 1976 and 32 percent in 1975.

Stoppages beginning in the first 9 months

- The 4,519 stoppages that began in the first 9 months of 1977 exceeded the number beginning in 1976 and 1975 by 130 and 453, respectively.
- The estimated 1,770,000 workers who participated in strikes in the first 3 quarters of this year were 223,000 lower than in 1976.

Total stoppages in September

- Idleness in September was 0.19 percent of estimated total working time (1.9 days per thousand) compared with 0.23 last month and 0.28 in September 1976.
- Approximately 872 strikes were in effect in September, 32 less than in August and 100 less than a year ago.
- An estimated 335,000 workers participated in strikes in September, 405,000 workers in August 1977 and 466,000 in September 1976.
- Strikes averaged 384 workers and 448 workers in September and August 1977, respectively. This made the third consecutive month that the average size of strikes decreased. The average size of strikes also decreased from September 1976.
- Stoppages were slightly shorter in September, 10.2 days, as compared with 10.8 days in August and 10.4 days in September 1976.
- Six large strikes (involving 5,000 workers or more) were in effect in September (table 2). They accounted for only 18 percent of all workers involved in strikes and 24 percent of all days idle this month. These relatively small proportions, as well as the lower number of workers and days idle for the month as compared with August, would have been higher except for the ending of the 60,000 worker, 3-month bituminous coal strike and the copper industry walkout with almost 900,000 days lost. Four of the large stoppages continued into October.

Stoppages beginning in September

- The 566 strikes that began this month were the highest September level since data became available in 1947.
- The 175,000 workers who participated in these strikes rose from 155,000 workers in August. The September total, however, was well below the 340,000 strikers reported for September 1976.

Days of idleness as a percent of estimated total working time is derived by dividing total estimated days of idleness by total estimated working time available. Worktime available is the product of the number of working days during the month and estimated employment in the total economy.

Table 1. Work stoppages, selected periods to September 1977

Period	Number of stoppages: Beginning in month or year	Number of stoppages: In effect during month	Workers involved in stoppages: Beginning in month or year (thousands)	Workers involved in stoppages: In effect during month (thousands)	Days idle, in effect during month or year: Number (thousands)	Days idle, in effect during month or year: Percent of estimated working time
First 9 Months						
1968--------	4,101	4,270	2,176	2,264	40,093	.31
1969--------	4,649	4,818	1,963	2,042	31,513	.23
1970--------	4,704	4,883	2,535	2,733	43,853	.32
1971--------	4,300	4,531	2,754	2,839	33,936	.25
1972--------	4,130	4,346	1,421	1,536	23,356	.17
1973--------	4,271	4,432	1,736	1,801	20,303	.14
1974--------	5,025	5,219	2,278	2,340	38,650	.26
1975--------	4,066	4,307	1,453	1,499	25,320	.17
1/ 1976--------	4,389	4,663	1,993	2,052	29,659	.19
2/ 1977--------	4,519	4,686	1,770	1,837	26,708	.17
September						
1968--------	448	737	170	349	3,081	.22
1969--------	554	904	186	275	2,193	.15
1970--------	560	971	591	785	8,670	.57
1971--------	352	670	111	330	3,230	.21
1972--------	444	733	143	260	2,403	.16
1973--------	541	883	269	368	2,954	.20
1974--------	514	910	188	395	3,028	.19
1975--------	495	907	217	372	3,684	.22
1976 1/						
January	338	612	77	136	1,200	.07
February	362	615	96	139	1,030	.07
March	443	679	157	199	1,762	.10
April	591	894	465	530	3,133	.18
May	572	921	164	295	3,596	.22
June	577	1,007	231	373	4,388	.24
July	505	960	292	490	5,145	.30
August	480	937	171	410	4,557	.26
September	521	972	340	466	4,848	.28
October	559	1,024	152	429	4,348	.28
November	452	861	201	426	2,391	.14
December	248	607	75	168	1,459	.08
1977 2/						
January	351	518	109	176	1,160	.07
February	314	549	158	260	1,356	.09
March	391	600	222	340	2,094	.11
April	615	850	202	308	3,045	.18
May	551	908	254	455	4,131	.24
June	664	968	205	362	3,292	.18
July	609	1,032	289	483	3,864	.23
August	458	904	155	405	4,359	.23
September	566	872	175	335	3,408	.19

1/ Revised.

2/ Preliminary.

All work stoppages known to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its various cooperating agencies, involving 6 or more workers and lasting a full day or shift or longer, are included in this table. Figures on "workers involved" and "days idle" cover all workers made idle for as long as one shift in establishments directly involved in a stoppage. They do not measure the indirect or secondary effects on other establishments or industries whose employees are made idle as a result of material or service shortages.

Table 2. Work stoppages involving 5,000 workers or more, September 1977

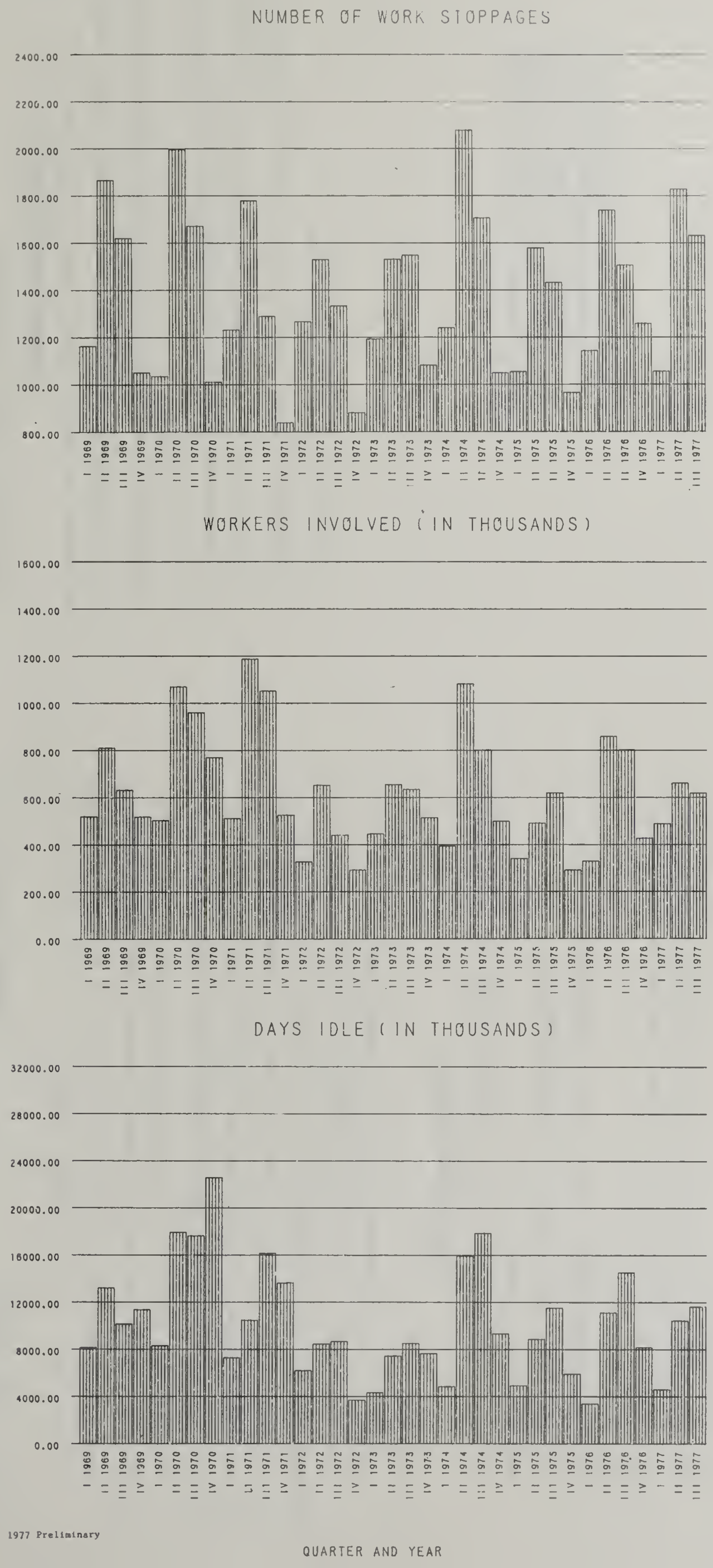
Company	Union 1/	Began	Ended	Workers involved 2/	Days idle 2/
Bituminous Coal Industry Interstate	UMW-Ind.	6/21	9/4	16,500	23,500 3/
Iron Ore Mining & Processing Industry Interstate	USA	8/1	-	15,000	315,000
Steel Fabricators & Erectors Assn. Honolulu, Hawaii	BSOIW	8/17	-	9,000	189,000
Glass Container Mfg. Institute Interstate	AFGW	9/16	-	8,500	93,500
General Dynamics Corp. Quincy, Mass.	IUMSW	7/18	-	5,200	109,200
School District of Philadelphia Pennsylvania	IBFO	9/12	9/30	5,000	75,000
			Totals:	59,200	805,200

1/ The unions are affiliated with the AFL-CIO, except where they are noted as independent (Ind.).

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Staggered idleness.

Work stoppages by quarter, 1969-77



1977 Preliminary

News United States Department of Labor

Bureau of Labor Statistics Washington, D.C. 20212

Washington, D. C. 20212
L. LeGrande (202) 523-1091
K. Hoyle (202) 523-1913
Home: 333-1384

USDL: 77-853
FOR RELEASE: Immediate
Thursday, September 29, 1977

WORK STOPPAGES: August 1977

Idleness attributable to work stoppages in August was 0.23 percent of estimated working time (2.3 working days idle per thousand), according to preliminary estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. This rate was the same as the July rate and slightly below the 0.26 percent recorded in August 1976. The number of stoppages and workers involved declined from July to August, but days of idleness increased. This increase was largely attributable to three mining stoppages--bituminous coal, iron ore, and copper--which were in effect all of August and were responsible for one-third of the 4.4 million days away from the job.

Idleness for the first 8 months of 1977, at 0.17 percent, declined for the third consecutive year.

Total Stoppages in August

- An estimated 904 stoppages were in effect in August, 128 fewer than in July and slightly less than in August 1976.
- Some 405,000 workers were involved in these strikes, compared with the 483,000 and 410,000 workers participating in labor disputes the preceding month and in August 1976, respectively.
- Days of idleness in August increased by 0.5 million from July, but were slightly lower than in August a year ago. There were more days idle in August than in any other month this year.
- The number of workers involved in strikes in August was smaller than in July, averaging 448 and 468 per strike, respectively.
- The average duration of strikes (as measured by days of idleness per worker involved) rose from 8.0 days in July to 10.8 days in August, but was slightly shorter than a year ago.

- Ten large strikes (involving 5,000 workers or more) were in effect in August. These disputes accounted for 40 percent of all workers involved in strikes this month and 45 percent of all days idle. Four major walkouts continued into September. In August 1976, eight large stoppages accounted for 51 percent of the workers involved and 47 percent of the idleness.

Stoppages beginning in August

- An estimated 458 stoppages began in August, 151 fewer than July.
- About 155,000 workers participated in new stoppages in August, compared with the 289,000 workers reported in July. This is the lowest worker involvement for August since 1970.
- With the exception of 1974, the 3,953 strikes which started during the first 8 months of 1977 were the largest number since 1970. The 1.6 million workers who engaged in stoppages during the first 8 months of the year were below the 1.8 million average for the last 10 years.

Days of idleness as a percent of estimated total working time is derived by dividing total estimated days of idleness by total estimated working time available. Worktime available is the product of the number of working days during the month and estimated employment in the total economy.

Table 1. Work stoppages, selected periods to August 1977

Period	Number of stoppages		Workers involved in stoppages		Days idle	
					In effect during month or year	
	Beginning in month or year	In effect during month	Beginning in month or year (thousands)	In effect during month (thousands)	Number (thousands)	Percent of estimated working time
First 8 Months						
1968------	3,653	3,822	2,006	2,094	37,822	.32
1969------	4,095	4,264	1,777	1,856	29,319	.24
1970------	4,144	4,323	1,944	2,142	35,184	.29
1971------	3,948	4,179	2,643	2,728	30,706	.25
1972------	3,686	3,902	1,278	1,393	20,953	.17
1973------	3,730	3,891	1,467	1,532	17,349	.13
1974------	4,511	4,705	2,090	2,153	35,623	.26
1975------	3,571	3,812	1,237	1,282	25,320	.19
1/ 1976------	3,868	6,625	1,653	2,572	24,811	.18
2/ 1977------	3,953	4,120	1,595	1,661	23,300	.17
August 1968------	466	821	154	360	4,049	.26
1969------	538	915	191	395	3,634	.24
1970------	527	950	127	341	3,852	.26
1971------	438	891	195	502	5,037	.32
1972------	485	790	168	270	2,840	.17
1973------	498	864	158	308	2,571	.14
1974------	509	1,057	254	572	5,882	.33
1975------	420	836	172	325	3,377	.20
1976 1/						
January	338	612	77	136	1,200	.07
February	362	615	96	139	1,030	.07
March	443	679	157	199	1,762	.10
April	591	894	465	530	3,133	.18
May	572	921	164	295	3,596	.22
June	577	1,007	231	373	4,388	.24
July	505	960	292	490	5,145	.30
August	480	937	171	410	4,557	.26
September	521	972	340	466	4,848	.28
October	559	1,024	152	429	4,348	.28
November	452	861	201	426	2,391	.14
December	248	607	75	168	1,459	.08
1977 2/						
January	351	518	109	176	1,160	.07
February	314	549	158	260	1,356	.09
March	391	600	222	340	2,094	.11
April	615	850	202	308	3,045	.18
May	551	908	254	455	4,131	.24
June	664	968	205	362	3,292	.18
July	609	1,032	289	483	3,864	.23
August	458	904	155	405	4,359	.23

1/ Revised.
2/ Preliminary.

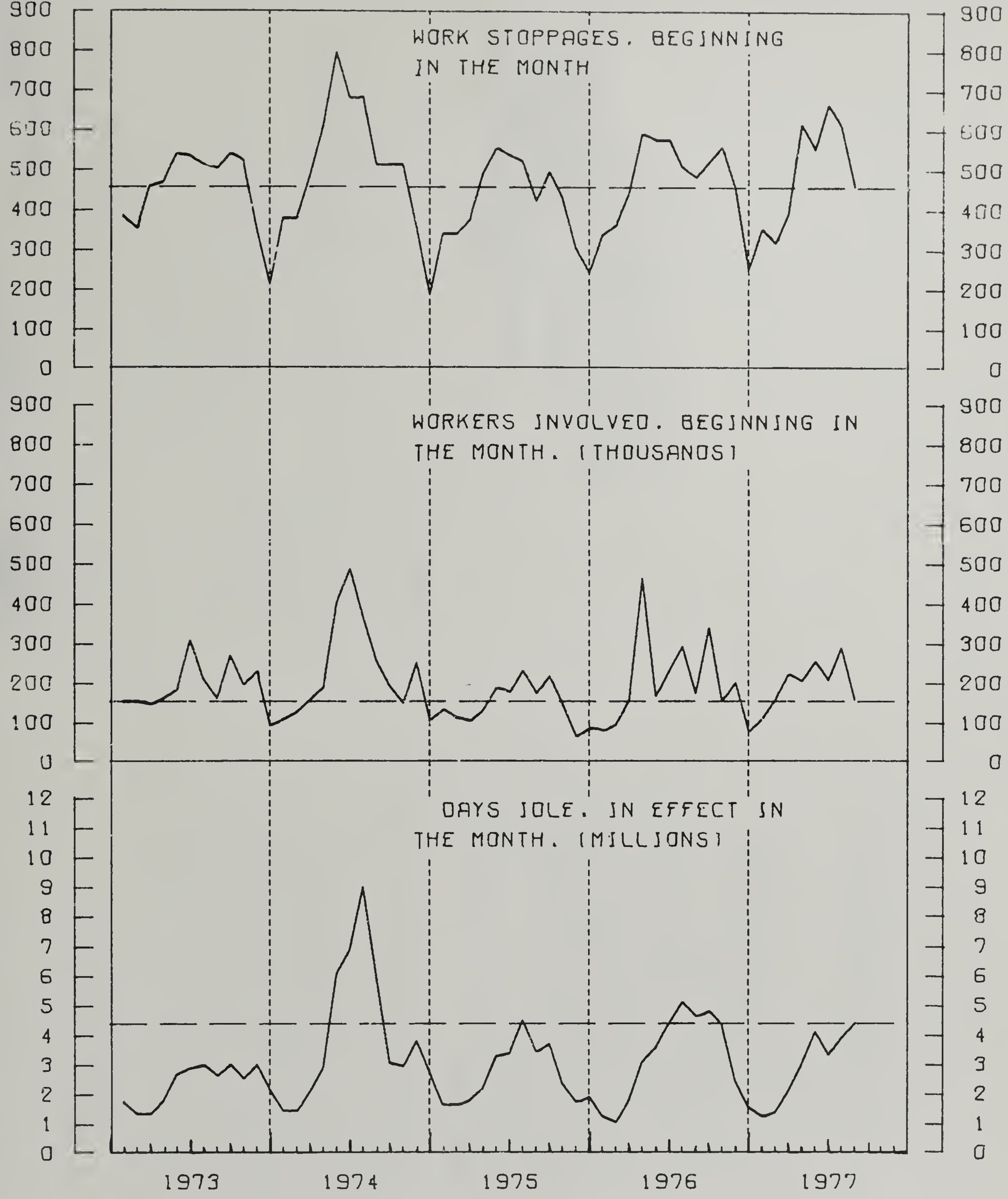
All work stoppages known to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its various cooperating agencies, involving 6 or more workers and lasting a full day or shift or longer, are included in this table. Figures on "workers involved" and "days idle" cover all workers made idle for as long as one shift in establishments directly involved in a stoppage. They do not measure the indirect or secondary effects on other establishments or industries whose employees are made idle as a result of material or service shortages.

Table 2. Stoppages involving 5,000 workers or more, August 1977

Company	Union(s) 1/	Began	Ended	Workers involved 2/	Days idle 2/
Bituminous Coal Industry-Interstate	UMW (Ind.)	6/21	9/4	60,000	941,800 3/
Construction Industry Seattle & Tacoma, Washington	CJA	7/25	8/1	30,000	30,000
Iron Ore Mining & Processing Industry Interstate	USA	8/1	-	15,000	345,000
General Motors Corp., Delco-Remy Division Anderson, Indiana	UAW (Ind.)	8/15	8/28	12,500	125,000
Copper Industry Interstate	USA & Craft Unions	7/1	-	11,056	180,834 3/
Steel Fabricators & Erectors Assn. Honolulu, Hawaii	BSOIW	8/17	-	9,000	99,000
Construction Industry Springfield, Ill.	IBT (Ind.)	7/28	8/4	6,500	26,000
State of Pennsylvania Statewide	AFSCME	8/19	8/19	5,500	5,500
General Dynamics Corp. Quincy, Mass.	IUMSW	7/18		5,200	119,600
Construction Industry So. California	PAT	7/13	8/18	5,000	70,000
			Totals:	159,756	1,942,734

1/ The unions are affiliated with the AFL-CIO, except where they are noted as independent (Ind.).
2/ Preliminary.
3/ Staggered idleness.

CHART 1. NUMBER OF STOPPAGES, WORKERS INVOLVED, AND DAYS IDLE, BY MONTH, 1973-77



1977 Preliminary

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

FIRST CLASS MAIL

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
LAB - 441

313
Institute of Labor
& Industrial Rel. Library
504 E. Armory
Champaign, Illionis 61820

News United States Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics Washington, D.C. 20212

L. LeGrande (202) 523-1091
K. Hoyle (202) 523-1913
Home: 333-1384

USDL: 77-748
FOR RELEASE: Immediate
August 26, 1977

WORK STOPPAGES: July 1977

Idleness attributable to work stoppages in July was 0.23 percent of estimated working time (2.3 working days idle per thousand), according to preliminary estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. This was well above the June rate of 0.18 but below the 0.30 percent recorded in July 1976. Except for 1972 and 1973, when wage-price controls were in effect, the July idleness rate was the lowest in the past 10 years. Total work days idle were the lowest recorded since 1968, again with the exception of 1972 and 1973.

Idleness for the first 7 months of 1977 was 0.16 percent, much the same as it has been since 1975. (See table 1.)

Total Stoppages in July

- Strikes in July numbered 1,032, higher than any previous month in 1977 and the second highest July total during the 1968-77 period.
- Approximately 483,000 workers engaged in labor disputes in July, the greatest number to date in 1977 but only slightly more than half the number of workers recorded as July's high in 1971. The number of workers increased by 121 from the June estimate and was only slightly lower than the July 1976 figure.
- Some 3.9 million days off the job resulted from labor-management disputes in July, compared with 3.3 million in June and 5.1 million a year ago.
- Stoppages in July involved more workers than those in June, averaging 468 and 374 workers per strike, respectively. Stoppages this month were, however, somewhat smaller than the average in July 1976.
- The average duration of strikes (as measured by days of idleness per worker involved) declined in July to 8.0 days, the shortest strike duration for July during the past 10 years.

- Nine large strikes (each involving 5,000 workers or more) were in effect in July 1977. These strikes, three of which continued into August, accounted for approximately one-third of all workers involved in disputes this month and 36.8 percent of all days idle. In July 1976, the 12 large strikes represented almost twice the number of workers and days idle.[1] (See table 2.)

Stoppages beginning in July

- Strikes beginning in July declined to 609 from 664 in June. This is the highest July level since 1974 when 683 strikes began in the month.
- An estimated 289,000 workers participated in new stoppages this month, the peak for 1977 thus far.
- For the first 7 months of 1977, there were 3,495 strikes, only slightly above the 1968-77 7-month average of 3,434. The 1.4 million workers involved in new strikes during the first 7 months of 1977 were below the average of 1.6 million for the 10-year period.

Days of idleness as a percent of estimated total working time is derived by dividing total estimated days of idleness by total estimated working time available. Work-time available is the product of the number of working days during the month and estimated employment in the total economy.

Table 1. Work stoppages, selected periods to July 1977.

Period	Number of stoppages		Workers involved in stoppages		Days idle	
					In effect during month or year	
	Beginning in month or year	In effect during month	Beginning in month or year (thousands)	In effect during month (thousands)	Number (thousands)	Percent of estimated working time
First 7 Months						
1968 ------------	3,187	3,356	1,852	1,940	33,773	.33
1969 ------------	3,557	3,726	1,586	1,665	25,685	.24
1970 ------------	3,617	3,796	1,816	2,015	31,332	.29
1971 ------------	3,510	3,741	2,449	2,534	25,669	.24
1972 ------------	3,201	3,417	1,110	1,225	18,113	.17
1973 ------------	3,232	3,393	1,309	1,374	14,778	.13
1974 ------------	4,002	4,196	1,840	1,902	29,741	.25
1975 ------------	3,151	3,392	1,065	1,111	18,259	.16
1/1976 ------------	3,388	5,688	1,482	2,162	20,254	.17
2/1977 ------------	3,495	3,662	1,440	1,507	18,941	.16
July 1968 ------------	520	880	202	465	4,612	.30
1969 ------------	528	883	255	462	4,311	.27
1970 ------------	585	989	242	467	5,112	.32
1971 ------------	499	938	748	938	7,895	.52
1972 ------------	404	706	130	384	3,437	.23
1973 ------------	509	860	208	324	2,996	.19
1974 ------------	683	1,199	364	667	8,954	.51
1975 ------------	518	899	231	382	4,465	.26
1976 1/						
January	338	612	77	136	1,200	.07
February	362	615	96	139	1,030	.07
March	443	679	157	199	1,762	.10
April	591	894	465	530	3,133	.18
May	572	921	164	295	3,596	.22
June	577	1,007	231	373	4,388	.24
July	505	960	292	490	5,145	.30
August	480	937	171	410	4,557	.26
September	521	972	340	466	4,848	.28
October	559	1,024	152	429	4,348	.28
November	452	861	201	426	2,391	.14
December	248	607	75	168	1,459	.08
1977 2/						
January	351	518	109	176	1,160	.07
February	314	549	158	260	1,356	.09
March	391	600	222	340	2,094	.11
April	615	850	202	308	3,045	.18
May	551	908	254	455	4,131	.24
June	664	968	205	362	3,292	.18
July	609	1,032	289	483	3,864	.23

1/ Revised.
2/ Preliminary.

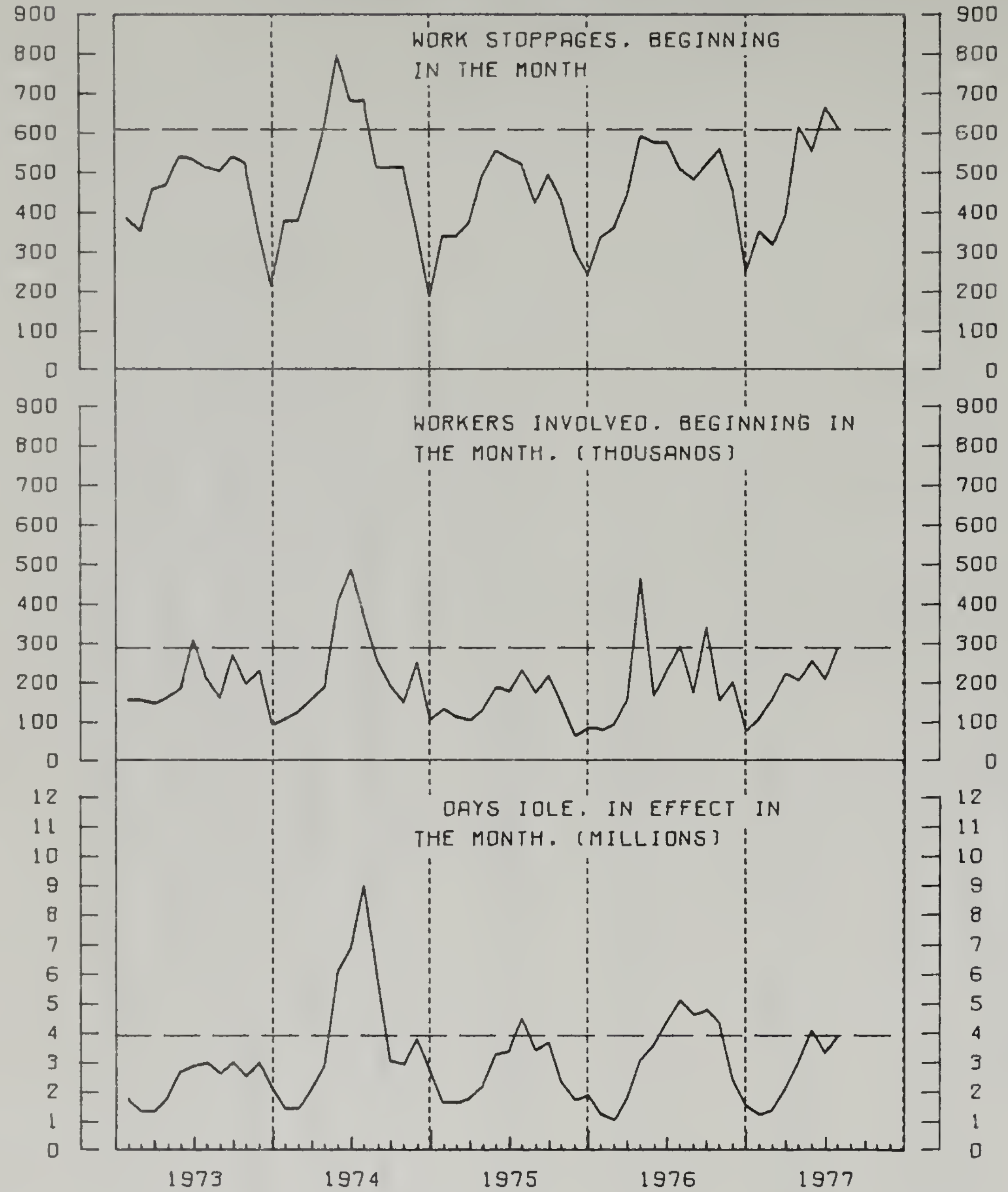
All work stoppages known to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its various cooperating agencies, involving 6 or more workers and lasting a full day or shift or longer, are included in this table. Figures on "workers involved" and "days idle" cover all workers made idle for as long as one shift in establishments directly involved in a stoppage. They do not measure the indirect or secondary effects on other establishments or industries whose employees are made idle as a result of material or service shortages.

Table 2. Stoppages involving 5,000 workers or more, July 1977

Company	Union(s) 1/	Began	Ended	Workers involved 2/	Days idle 2/
Bituminous Coal Industry Interstate	UMW (Ind.)	6/21	-	41,000	255,300 3/
Copper Industry Interstate	USA & Craft Unions	7/1	-	39,000	686,312 3/
Construction Industry Seattle and Tacoma, Washington	CJA	7/25	8/1	30,000	134,000 3/
State of Wisconsin Statewide	Wisconsin State Employees Assn.	7/3	7/17	18,000	162,000
Construction Industry So. California	IUOE	7/18	7/24	10,000	50,000
City of Detroit Michigan	AFSCME	7/6	7/6	8,000	8,000
Construction Industry Springfield, Ill.	IBT (Ind.)	7/28	8/5	6,500	13,000
Construction Industry So. California	PAT	7/13	-	5,000	65,000
General Dynamics Corp. Qunicy, Mass.	IUMSW	7/18	-	5,000	50,000
			Totals:	162,500	1,423,612

1/ The unions are affiliated with the AFL-CIO, except where they are noted as independent (Ind.).
2/ Preliminary.
3/ Staggered idleness.

CHART 1. NUMBER OF STOPPAGES, WORKERS INVOLVED, AND DAYS IDLE, BY MONTH, 1973-77



1977 PRELIMINARY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

FIRST CLASS MAIL

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
LAB - 441

U.S. MAIL

Institute of Labor 313
& Industrial Rel. Library
504 E. Armory
Champaign, Illionis 61820

News
United States
Department
of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington, D.C. 20212

A. Belman (202) 523-1535
K. Hoyle (202) 523-1913
Home: 333-1384

USDL: 77-674
FOR RELEASE: 11:00 A.M. E.D.T.
Friday, July 29, 1977

WORK STOPPAGES: First 6 Months, 1977

Idleness attributable to work stoppages in the first half of 1977, at 0.14 percent of estimated working time (1.4 days per thousand worked), was less than the 0.16 percent recorded in 1976, according to preliminary estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor (table 1). Large stoppages involving 5,000 workers or more were primarily responsible for the higher idleness last year, particularly the large rubber industry stoppage that continued for over 2 of the 6 months. In only 1 year of the past 9--1973 when wage-price controls were in effect-- was the idleness rate lower than in the first 6 months of 1977.

Total Stoppages During the First 6 Months

- An estimated 3,053 work stoppages were in effect during the first 6 months of 1977, the highest number since 1974 and one of the few measures of strike activity that increased from the first half of 1976.
- Some 1,217,000 workers participated in strikes in 1977, almost 100,000 fewer than in the first half of 1976.
- Days away from the job, at 15,077,000, declined by almost 1.5 million from the first half of 1976.
- Stoppages in 1977 averaged almost 400 workers compared with 306 workers per stoppage in the first half of 1976.
- The average duration of stoppages (as measured by days of idleness per worker involved) was 12.6 days, only slightly below the 12.7 days recorded last year.
- Idleness resulting from disputes involving 5,000 workers or more was unusually low this year; these stoppages accounted for only 16 percent of total idleness in the first half, compared with 37 percent in 1976 and 25 percent in 1974 and 1975.

Stoppages Beginning in the First 6 Months

- The 2,886 strikes that began in the first 6 months of 1977 exceeded the number beginning in 1975 and 1976 by 253 and 170, respectively.
- The estimated 1,151,000 workers participated in stoppages in the first half of this year, somewhat over 100,000 fewer than in 1976 but 300,000 more than in 1975.

Total Stoppages in June

- Idleness in June was 0.18 percent of estimated total working time (1.8 days per thousand workers), compared with 0.24 percent last month and 0.25 percent in June 1976. Except for 1973, the idleness rate this year was the lowest June level recorded since 1968.
- The number of stoppages in effect in June--968-- were higher than last month and in June 1976.
- Some 362,000 workers were involved in stoppages in June, well below May 1977 and June 1976 levels. Stoppages this June averaged 374 workers, below the 501 in May and the 426 in the same month last year.
- The estimated 3,292,000 days of idleness in June was over 80,000 days lower than in May.
- An unusually small number of stoppages that involved 5,000 workers or more occurred this June. There were six large stoppages, compared with 11 in May and nine in June 1976. These six accounted for 15 percent of total idleness. In 1976, large stoppages represented 38 percent of all days idle.

Stoppages Beginning in June

- New stoppages in June totaled 664, 93 more than in the same month last year.
- About 205,000 workers participated in strikes in June, compared with 254,000 in May and 240,000 last year.

Days of idleness as a percent of estimated total working time is derived by dividing total estimated days of idleness by total estimated working time available. Worktime available is the product of the number of working days during the month and estimated employment in the total economy.

Table 1. Work stoppages, selected periods to June 1977.

Period	Number of stoppages		Workers involved in stoppages		Days idle	
					In effect during month or year	
	Beginning in month or year	In effect during month	Beginning in month or year (thousands)	In effect during month (thousands)	Number (thousands)	Percent of estimated working time
First 6 Months 1968---	2,667	2,836	1,650	1,738	29,161	.33
1969---	3,029	3,198	1,331	1,410	21,374	.24
1970---	3,032	3,211	1,574	1,773	26,220	.29
1971---	3,011	3,242	1,701	1,786	17,775	.20
1972---	2,797	3,013	980	1,095	14,676	.16
1973---	2,723	2,884	1,101	1,165	11,782	.12
1974---	3,319	3,513	1,476	1,538	20,787	.21
1975---	2,633	2,874	834	880	13,795	.14
1/ 1976---	2,716	2,866	1,262	1,308	16,562	.16
1/ 1977---	2,886	3,053	1,151	1,217	15,077	.14
June 1968---	500	810	169	400	5,577	.40
1969---	565	911	215	500	4,723	.31
1970---	657	1,060	288	538	5,846	.36
1971---	617	1,031	280	420	4,094	.26
1972---	491	818	311	413	3,606	.22
1973---	530	864	308	395	2,903	.18
1974---	677	1,187	488	707	6,940	.43
1975---	533	876	174	298	3,362	.20
1976 1/						
January	333	483	75	121	1,191	.07
February	354	540	93	133	1,030	.07
March	438	630	152	189	1,688	.09
April	583	787	464	521	3,148	.18
May	577	836	164	344	3,706	.23
June	571	931	240	421	4,488	.25
July	523	977	312	607	5,219	.31
August	508	847	123	407	3,824	.22
September	525	778	373	486	4,566	.27
October	537	790	161	421	4,138	.27
November	400	679	262	430	3,228	.19
December	251	466	89	158	1,770	.10
1977 1/						
January	351	518	109	176	1,160	.07
February	314	549	158	260	1,356	.09
March	391	600	222	340	2,094	.11
April	615	850	202	308	3,045	.18
May	551	908	254	455	4,131	.24
June	664	968	205	362	3,292	.18

1/ Preliminary.

All work stoppages known to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its various cooperating agencies, involving 6 or more workers and lasting a full day or shift or longer, are included in this table. Figures on "workers involved" and "days idle" cover all workers made idle for as long as one shift in establishments directly involved in a stoppage. They do not measure the indirect or secondary affects on other establishments or industries whose employees are made idle as a result of material or service shortages.

Table 2. Stoppages involving 5,000 workers or more, June 1977

Company	Union(s) 1/	Began	Ended	Workers involved 2/	Days idle 2/
Bituminous Coal Industry Ky., Va., & W. Va.	UMW-Ind.	6/21	3/	35,000	109,000 4/
Construction Industry Bloomington, Ill.	LIUNA	5/5	6/22	15,000	136,000 4/
Construction Industry Ohio-Intrastate	LIUNA & OPCM	5/18	6/10	10,400	83,200
Weyerhaeuser Co. Oregon & Washington	IWA	6/1	-	10,100 5/	18,500 4/
Construction Industry Missouri-Intrastate	IUOE	5/2	6/14	10,000	118,000 4/
Retail Grocery Industry Seattle, Wash.	RCIA	5/22	6/8	6,750	40,500
			Totals:	87,250	505,200

1/ The unions are affiliated with the AFL-CIO, except where they are noted as independent (Ind.).

2/ Preliminary.

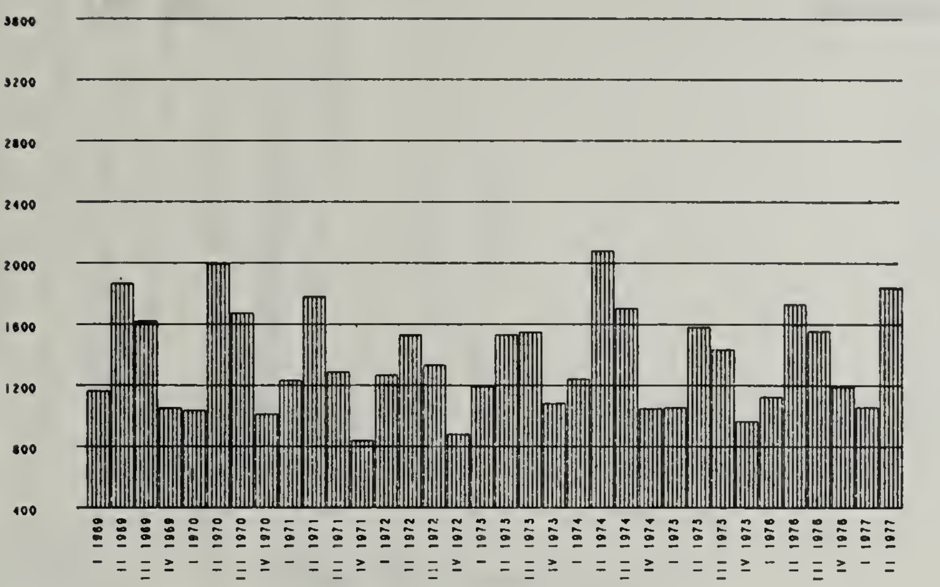
3/ Mine workers holiday period began on June 25; little or no idleness occurred from June 25-30.

4/ Staggered idleness.

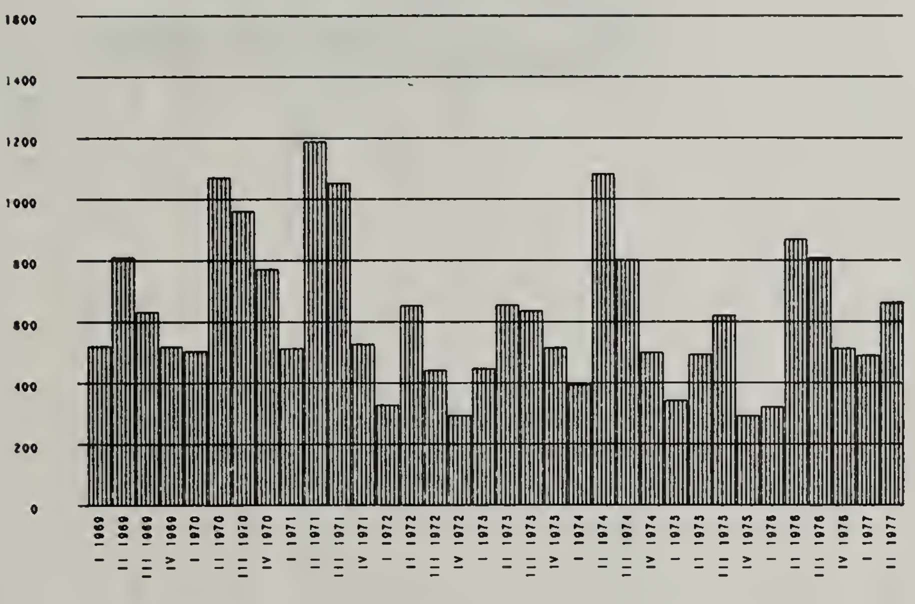
5/ Approximately 9,700 workers were idle for 1 day, on June 28, in support of 400 workers who had been on strike in Cosmopolis, Wash. since June 1.

Work stoppages by quarter, 1969-1977

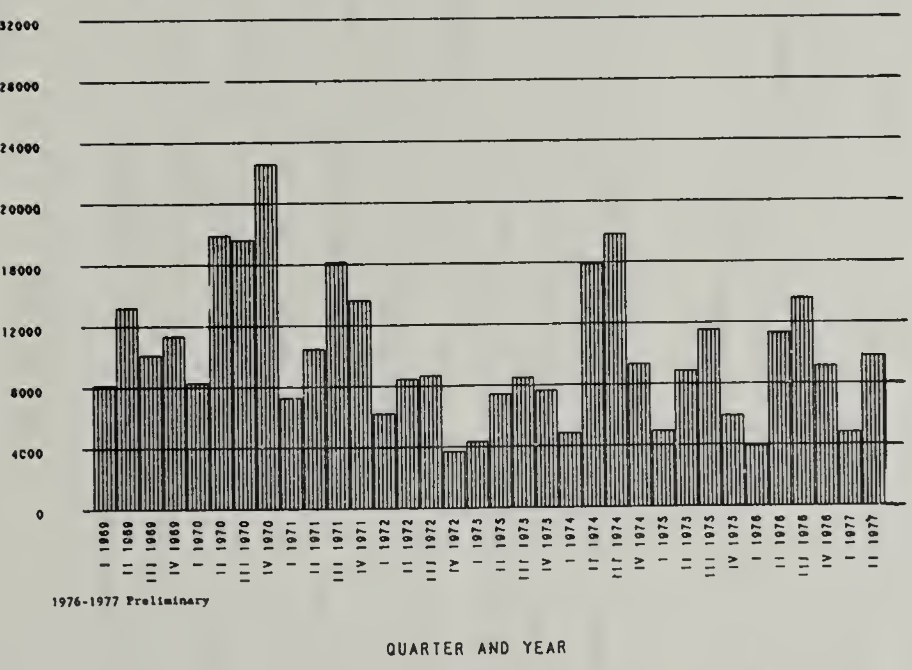
NUMBER OF WORK STOPPAGES



WORKERS INVOLVED (IN THOUSANDS)



DAYS IDLE (IN THOUSANDS)



1976-1977 Preliminary

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

FIRST CLASS MAIL

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
LAB - 441

U.S.MAIL

Institute of Labor 313
& Industrial Rel. Library
504 E. Armory
Champaign, Illionis 61820

News United States Department of Labor

Bureau of Labor Statistics Washington, D.C. 20212

P. Verrochi (202) 523-1091
K. Hoyle (202) 523-1913
Home: 333-1384

USDL: 77-569
FOR RELEASE: 11:00 A.M. E.D.T.
June 28, 1977

WORK STOPPAGES: May 1977

Idleness attributable to work stoppages increased for the fourth consecutive month, according to preliminary estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor. At 0.24 percent of estimated total working time (2.4 days idle per thousand), idleness was above the levels of May 1976 (0.23 percent) and April 1977 (0.18 percent). The rate this May is the highest since 1974. (See table 1.) Excluding 1974 when strikes reached an alltime peak, three major measures of dispute activity--total strikes, workers involved, and days idle as a percent of estimated working time--were at their highest May levels since 1971.

Idleness for the first 5 months of 1977 was 0.14 percent of estimated total working time, marginally above the 0.13 percent recorded in the first 5 months of 1975 and 1976.

Total stoppages in May

- Strikes in May, at 908, exceeded the 850 in effect last month and the 836 in May 1976.
- Some 455,000 workers participated in stoppages this month, well above the 308,000 in April 1977 and the 344,000 in May 1976.
- Approximately 4 million days off the job resulted from strikes in May, more than 1 million above April and almost one-half million more than in May 1976.
- Stoppages in May averaged 501 workers, well above the April average of 362 workers and the May 1976 average of 411.

- Strikes in May averaged 9.1 days per worker involved, slightly shorter than the 9.9 days in April and the 10.8 days last May. This is the shortest strike duration for May since 1971 when strikes averaged 4.9 days.
- Eleven large strikes (each involving 5,000 workers or more) were in effect in May 1977. (See table 2.) These disputes, five of which continued into June, accounted for 23 percent of all workers involved in strikes and 25 percent of all days idle. There were eight large strikes in May 1976.

Stoppages beginning in May

- Strikes beginning in May, at 551, declined by 64 from April 1977 and by 26 from May 1976.
- About 254,000 workers participated in new strikes in May, well above the 202,000 recorded last month and the 164,000 in May 1976.

Days of idleness as a percent of estimated total working time is derived by dividing total estimated days of idleness by total estimated working time available. Worktime available is the product of the number of working days during the month and estimated employment in the total economy.

Table 1. Work stoppages, selected periods to May 1977.

Period	Number of stoppages		Workers involved in stoppages		Days idle	
					In effect during month or year	
	Beginning in month or year	In effect during month	Beginning in month or year (thousands)	In effect during month (thousands)	Number (thousands)	Percent of estimated working time
First 5 Months						
1968	2,167	2,336	1,482	1,570	23,584	.32
1969	2,464	2,633	1,116	1,196	16,651	.22
1970	2,375	2,554	1,286	1,485	20,374	.27
1971	2,394	2,625	1,420	1,506	13,681	.18
1972	2,306	2,522	669	784	11,070	.14
1973	2,193	2,354	792	857	8,880	.11
1974	2,642	2,836	988	1,050	13,847	.17
1975	2,100	2,341	660	706	10,433	.13
1/ 1976	2,285	2,435	948	994	10,763	.13
1/ 1977	2,222	2,389	946	1,013	11,785	.14
May 1968	610	930	307	736	7,452	.49
1969	723	1,054	286	508	4,745	.32
1970	699	1,050	331	675	6,651	.46
1971	612	957	727	818	4,000	.28
1972	541	860	155	249	2,604	.16
1973	536	837	184	257	2,709	.16
1974	795	1,191	405	524	6,050	.34
1975	555	850	187	265	3,319	.20
1976 1/						
January	333	483	75	121	1,191	.07
February	354	540	93	133	1,030	.07
March	438	630	152	189	1,688	.09
April	583	787	464	521	3,148	.18
May	577	836	164	344	3,706	.23
June	571	931	240	421	4,488	.25
July	523	977	312	607	5,219	.31
August	508	847	123	407	3,824	.22
September	525	778	373	486	4,566	.27
October	537	790	161	421	4,138	.27
November	400	679	262	430	3,228	.19
December	251	466	89	158	1,770	.10
1977 1/						
January	351	518	109	176	1,160	.07
February	314	549	158	260	1,356	.09
March	391	600	222	340	2,094	.11
April	615	850	202	308	3,045	.18
May	551	908	254	455	4,131	.24

1/ Preliminary.

All work stoppages known to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its various cooperating agencies, involving 6 or more workers and lasting a full day or shift or longer, are included in this table. Figures on "workers involved" and "days idle" cover all workers made idle for as long as one shift in establishments directly involved in a stoppage. They do not measure the indirect or secondary effects on other establishments or industries whose employees are made idle as a result of material or service shortages.

Table 2. Stoppages involving 5,000 workers or more, May 1977

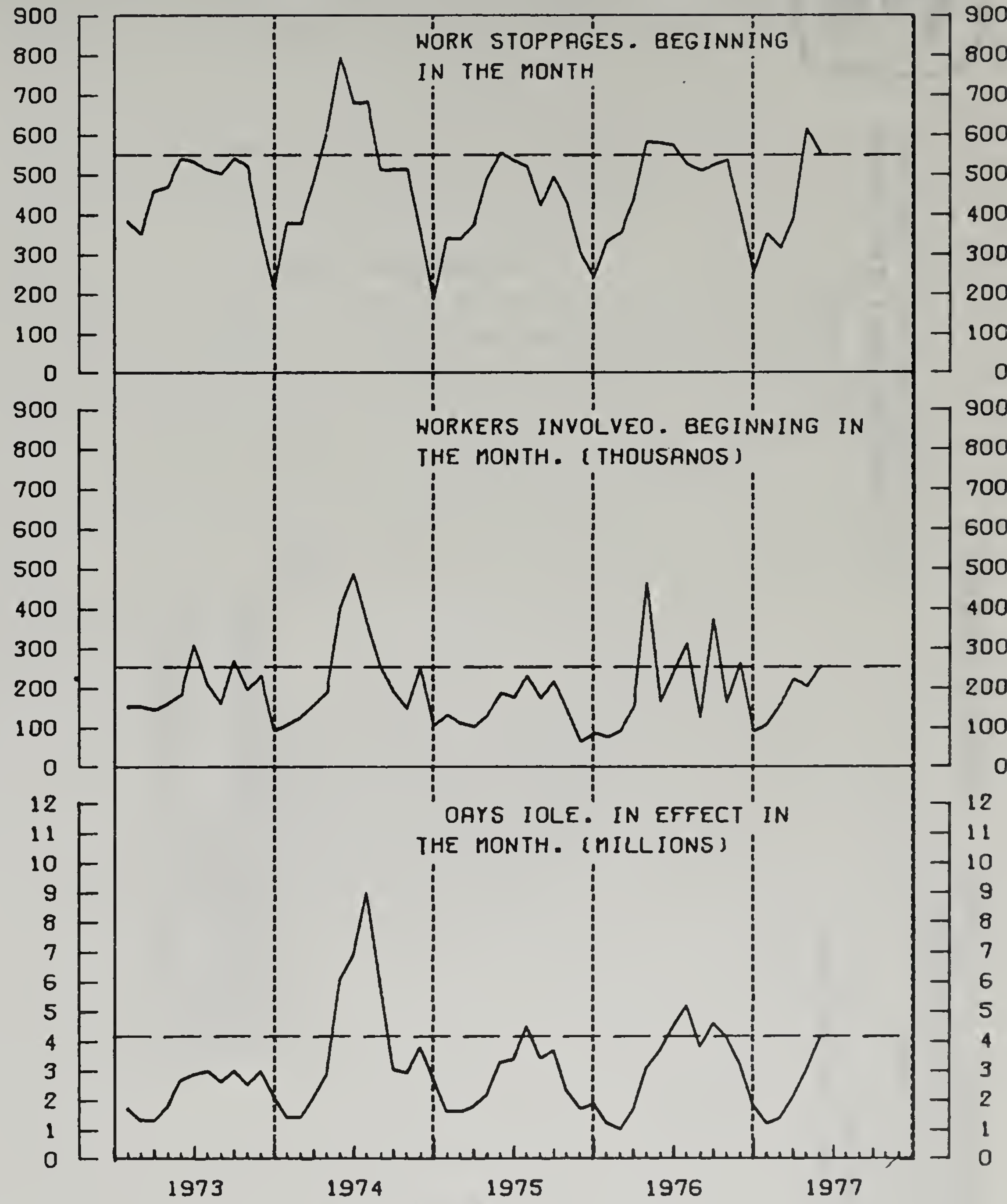
Company	Union(s) 1/	Began	Ended	Workers involved 2/	Days idle 2/
Bituminous Coal Industry Ohio and W. Va.	UMW (Ind.)	4/20	5/17	22,000	118,000 3/
Construction Industry Bloomington, Ill.	LIUNA	5/5	-	15,000	270,000
Construction Industry Ohio, Intrastate	LIUNA & OPCM	5/18	-	10,400	93,600
Construction Industry Missouri, Intrastate	IUOE	5/2	-	10,000	210,000
General Electric Co. Schenectady, N.Y.	IUE	5/6	5/8	8,016	8,016
Construction Industry Dallas, Texas	PPF	5/2	-	8,000	168,000
Board of Education Milwaukee, Wis.	Milwaukee Education Assn.	4/7	5/9	8,000	48,000
Retail Grocery Industry Seattle, Wash.	RCIA	5/22	-	6,750	40,500
Construction Industry Central Ill.	CJA	5/2	5/9	5,800	34,800
Bakery Industry Los Angeles, Calif.	BCW	5/7	5/10	5,500	11,000
Southeastern Pa. Transit Authority Philadelphia, Pa.	TWU	3/25	5/7	5,000	25,000
			Totals:	104,466	1,026,916

1/ The unions are affiliated with the AFL-CIO, except where they are noted as independent (Ind.).

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Staggered idleness.

CHART 1. NUMBER OF STOPPAGES. WORKERS INVOLVED. AND DAYS IDLE. BY MONTH. 1973-77



1976-77 PRELIMINARY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

FIRST CLASS MAIL

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
LAB - 441

U.S.MAIL

Institute of Labor 313
& Industrial Rel. Library
504 E. Armory
Champaign, Illionis 61820

News United States
Department
of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics Washington, D.C. 20212

P. Verrochi (202) 523-1091
K. Hoyle (202) 523-1913
Home: 333-1384

USDL: 77-488
FOR RELEASE: 11:00 A.M. E.D.T.
May 27, 1977

WORK STOPPAGES: April 1977

Idleness attributable to work stoppages increased for the third consecutive month, according to preliminary estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. At 0.18 percent of estimated total working time (1.8 days idle per thousand), idleness equaled the level of April 1976 and surpassed that for March 1977 (0.11 percent). The rate this April was the same as a year ago, but exceeded all other April rates since 1970. (See table 1.)

Idleness for the first 4 months of 1977 was 0.11 percent of estimated total working time, the same as in the first 4 months of 1976 and 1975.

Total stoppages in April

- Strikes in April, at 850, were well above the 600 in effect last month and moderately above the 787 in April 1976.
- Some 308,000 workers participated in stoppages this month, well below the levels of March 1977 and April 1976. Except for April 1976, when an estimated 360,000 trucking and rubber workers were on strike, the April 1977 level was the highest for the month since 1970.
- About 3 million days off the job resulted from strikes in April, almost 1 million days more than in the previous month and slightly below the total accumulated in April 1976. Excluding last year, this also is the highest April since 1970 when over 5 million days idle resulted from strikes.
- Stoppages in April averaged 362 workers, well below the April 1976 aversge of 662 workers, but the second highest April average since 1970 when strikes averaged 592 workers.

- This month's strikes averaged 9.9 days per worker involved, substantially longer than the 6.2 days in March and the 6.0 days recorded last April.
- Three large strikes (each involving 5,000 workers or more) were in effect in April 1977. (See table 2.) These disputes, all of which continued into May, accounted for 8 percent of all workers involved in strikes and 10 percent of all days idle. There were seven large strikes in April 1976.

Stoppages beginning in April

- Strikes beginning in April, at 615, rose by 224 over March and by 32 over April 1976. This again is the highest April total since 1970 when 640 new strikes occurred.
- About 202,000 workers participated in new stoppages in April, about 20,000 fewer than in March and 262,000 fewer than in last April.

Days of idleness as a percent of estimated total working time is derived by dividing total estimated days of idleness by total estimated working time available. Worktime available is the product of the number of working days during the month and estimated employment in the total economy.

Table 1. Work stoppages, selected periods to April 1977.

Period	Number of stoppages		Workers involved in stoppages		Days idle	
					In effect during month or year	
	Beginning in month or year	In effect during month	Beginning in month or year (thousands)	In effect during month (thousands)	Number (thousands)	Percent of estimated working time
First 4 Months						
1968----------	1,557	1,726	1,175	1,262	16,182	.28
1969----------	1,741	1,910	830	909	11,907	.20
1970----------	1,676	1,855	955	1,154	13,724	.23
1971----------	1,782	2,013	693	779	9,681	.16
1972----------	1,765	1,981	514	629	8,466	.14
1973----------	1,657	1,818	608	673	6,171	.10
1974----------	1,847	2,041	583	646	7,796	.12
1975----------	1,545	1,786	473	519	7,114	.11
1/ 1976----------	1,708	1,858	784	830	7,057	.11
1/ 1977----------	1,671	1,838	691	758	7,655	.11
April 1968----------	505	748	537	657	5,677	.38
1969----------	578	831	310	462	3,755	.24
1970----------	640	884	451	523	5,431	.34
1971----------	550	859	181	269	2,389	.15
1972----------	498	759	187	257	2,258	.15
1973----------	465	728	162	205	1,832	.11
1974----------	607	918	190	278	2,945	.17
1975----------	491	751	131	205	2,177	.13
1976 1/						
January	333	483	75	121	1,191	.07
February	354	540	93	133	1,030	.07
March	438	630	152	189	1,688	.09
April	583	787	464	521	3,148	.18
May	577	836	164	344	3,706	.23
June	571	931	240	421	4,488	.25
July	523	977	312	607	5,219	.31
August	508	847	123	407	3,824	.22
September	525	778	373	486	4,566	.27
October	537	790	161	421	4,138	.27
November	400	679	262	430	3,228	.19
December	251	466	89	158	1,770	.10
1977 1/						
January	351	518	109	176	1,160	.07
February	314	549	158	260	1,356	.09
March	391	600	222 2/	340 2/	2,094 2/	.11 2/
April	615	850	202	308	3,045	.18

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Revised from March figures.

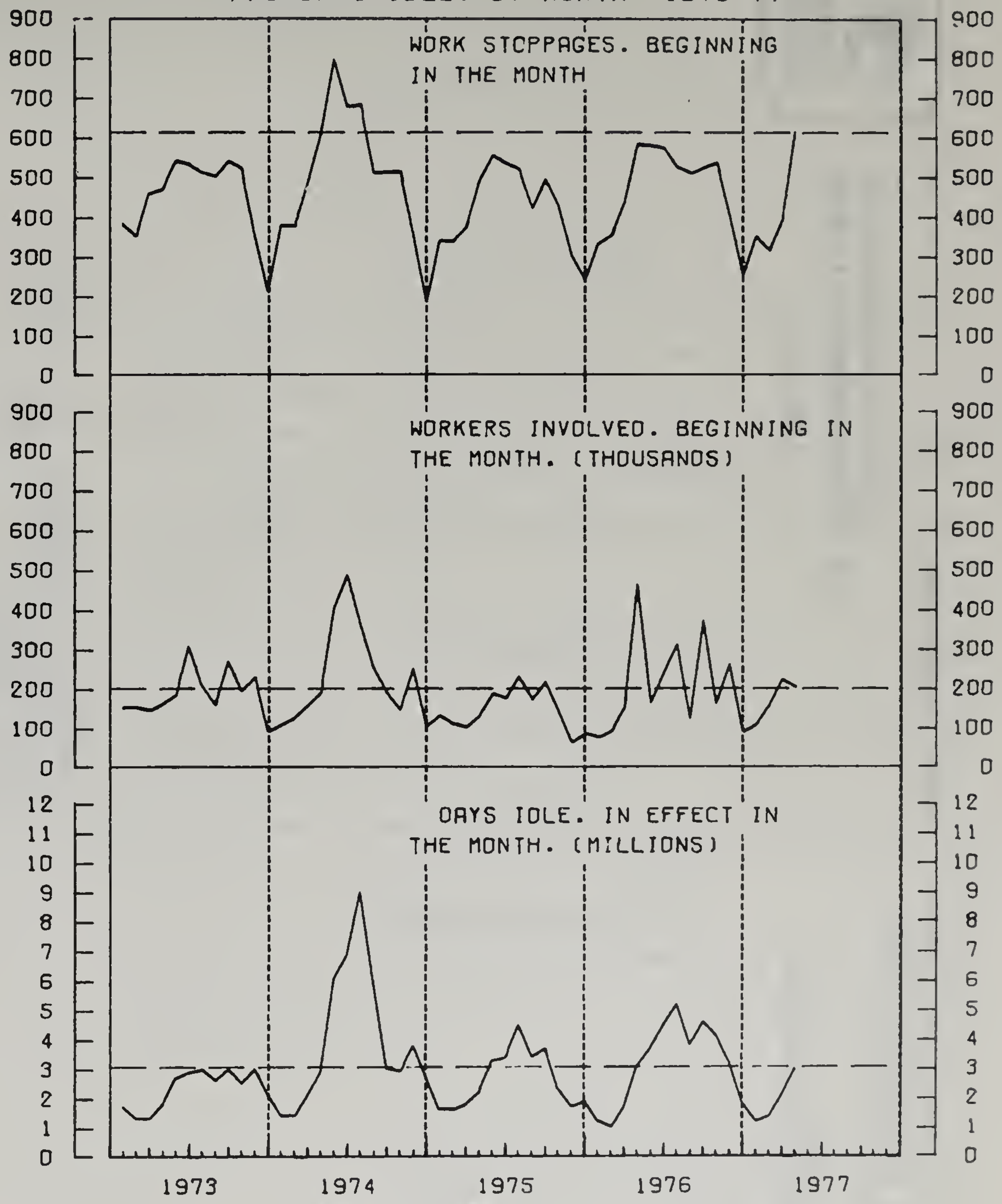
All work stoppages known to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its various cooperating agencies, involving 6 or more workers and lasting a full day or shift or longer, are included in this table. Figures on "workers involved" and "days idle" cover all workers made idle for as long as one shift in establishments directly involved in a stoppage. They do not measure the indirect or secondary effects on other establishments or industries whose employees are made idle as a result of material or service shortages.

Table 2. Stoppages involving 5,000 workers or more, April 1977

Company	Union(s) 1/	Began	Ended	Workers involved 2/	Days idle 2/
Bituminous Coal Industry Interstate	UMW (Ind.)	4/20	-	12,000	75,000 3/
Board of Education Milwaukee, Wis.	Milwaukee Education Association (Ind.)	4/7	-	8,000	136,000
Southeastern Pa. Transit Authority Philadelphia, Pa.	TWU	3/25	-	5,000	105,000
			Total:	25,000	316,000

1/ The unions are affiliated with the AFL-CIO, except where they are noted as independent (Ind.).
2/ Preliminary.
3/ Staggered idleness.

CHART 1. NUMBER OF STOPPAGES, WORKERS INVOLVED, AND DAYS IDLE, BY MONTH, 1973-77



1976-77 PRELIMINARY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

FIRST CLASS MAIL

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
LAB - 441

U.S.MAIL

Institute of Labor 313
& Industrial Rel. Library
504 E. Armory
Champaign, Illinois 61820

News United States Department of Labor

Bureau of Labor Statistics Washington, D.C. 20212

F. Kanterman (202) 523-1091
K. Hoyle (202) 523-1913
Home: 333-1384

USDL: 77-386
FOR RELEASE: 11 A.M. E.D.T.
April 29, 1977

WORK STOPPAGES: First 3 Months 1977

Idleness attributable to work stoppages during the first 3 months of 1977 was 0.09 percent of estimated total working time (0.9 working days idle per thousand), according to preliminary estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor. This year's first-quarter idleness was very close to the levels of first quarters since 1973, but well below the range of 0.24 percent to 0.14 percent for first-quarter idleness from 1968 through 1972.

Strikes during the first 3 months of 1977 were larger but shorter than first-quarter disputes over the past decade. The average number of workers per strike, 501, was considerably larger than in any first quarter since 1970. On the other hand, the average duration, 7.8 days idle per worker, was shortest since 1966. Not since 1952 have stoppages averaged more than 500 workers and lasted less than 10 days.

Total stoppages during the first 3 months

- An estimated 1,223 stoppages were in effect during the first quarter of 1977, 52 fewer than in the same period of 1976 and the third consecutive annual decline.
- Approximately 613,000 workers were involved in these stoppages--the highest number since 1970--compared with 366,000 a year ago.
- Some 4.8 million days off the job due to work stoppages were recorded this quarter, about 900,000 more than in 1976, but approximately equal to 1974 and 1975 levels.
- Idleness in large disputes (those involving 5,000 workers or more) accounted for approximately 17 percent of the days away from the job in 1977, compared with 14 percent in 1976. Workers in large strikes represented 24 percent of all strikers in 1977.

Stoppages beginning in the first 3 months

- Some 1,056 strikes began in the first quarter of 1977, only 2 more than in 1975 and, other than that year, the lowest total since 1970. The 546,000 workers idled by these disputes was the highest number for any first quarter since 1968.

Total stoppages in March

- Idleness resulting from work stoppages in March was 0.12 percent of estimated total working time (1.2 working days idle per thousand), compared with 0.09 percent in February 1977 and in March 1976.
- Approximately 600 stoppages were in effect this month, 51 more than in February but the lowest March total since 1967. Some 396,000 workers were involved in these stoppages, 136,000 more than the previous month and the highest March level since 1970.
- Approximately 2.3 million days off the job were recorded in March, almost 1 million more than in February and the highest March level since 1971. One of the reasons for the dramatic increase over February is the addition of 4 extra working days in March--23 compared with 19 in February--and the increased opportunity for strike activity inherent in the longer month.
- Nine large strikes in effect in March accounted for 27 percent of all workers who walked off their jobs and 19 percent of all idleness.

Stoppages beginning in March

- Some 391 stoppages began in March, more than in February but 47 fewer than in March 1976. The number of workers involved in these walkouts increased from 158,000 in February to 279,000 in March, the highest March level since 1970.

Days of idleness as a percent of estimated total working time is derived by dividing total estimated days of idleness by total estimated working time available. Worktime available is the product of the number of working days during the month and estimated employment in the total economy.

Table 1. Work stoppages, selected periods to March, 1977

Period	Number of stoppages		Workers involved in stoppages		Days idle	
					In effect during month or year	
	Beginning in month or year	In effect during month	Beginning in month or year (thousands)	In effect during month (thousands)	Number (thousands)	Percent of estimated working time
First 3 Months						
1967-----	946	1,103	328	398	4,031	.10
1968-----	1,052	1,221	637	725	10,455	.24
1969-----	1,163	1,332	520	600	8,152	.19
1970-----	1,036	1,215	504	702	8,293	.19
1971-----	1,232	1,463	513	598	7,292	.16
1972-----	1,267	1,483	328	443	6,209	.14
1973-----	1,192	1,353	446	511	4,339	.09
1974-----	1,240	1,434	394	456	4,852	.10
1975-----	1,054	1,295	342	388	4,937	.10
1/ 1976-----	1,125	1,275	320	366	3,909	.08
1/ 1977-----	1,056	1,223	546	613	4,803	.09
March 1967-----	368	545	130	195	1,508	.10
1968-----	381	618	175	369	3,682	.26
1969-----	436	651	158	386	2,413	.16
1970-----	427	630	316	403	2,471	.16
1971-----	457	725	150	260	2,490	.15
1972-----	421	727	162	220	1,830	.11
1973-----	461	703	144	190	1,344	.08
1974-----	484	763	158	229	2,119	.13
1975-----	375	612	101	169	1,774	.11
1976 January	333	483	75	121	1,191	.07
February	354	540	93	133	1,030	.07
March	438	630	152	189	1,688	.09
April	583	787	464	521	3,148	.18
May	577	836	164	344	3,706	.23
June	571	931	240	421	4,488	.25
July	523	977	312	607	5,219	.31
August	508	847	123	407	3,824	.22
September	525	778	373	486	4,566	.27
October	537	790	161	421	4,138	.27
November	400	679	262	430	3,228	.19
December	251	466	89	158	1,770	.10
1977 1/						
January	351	518	109	176	1,160	.07
February	314	549	158	260	1,356	.09
March	391	600	279	396	2,288	.12

1/ Preliminary.

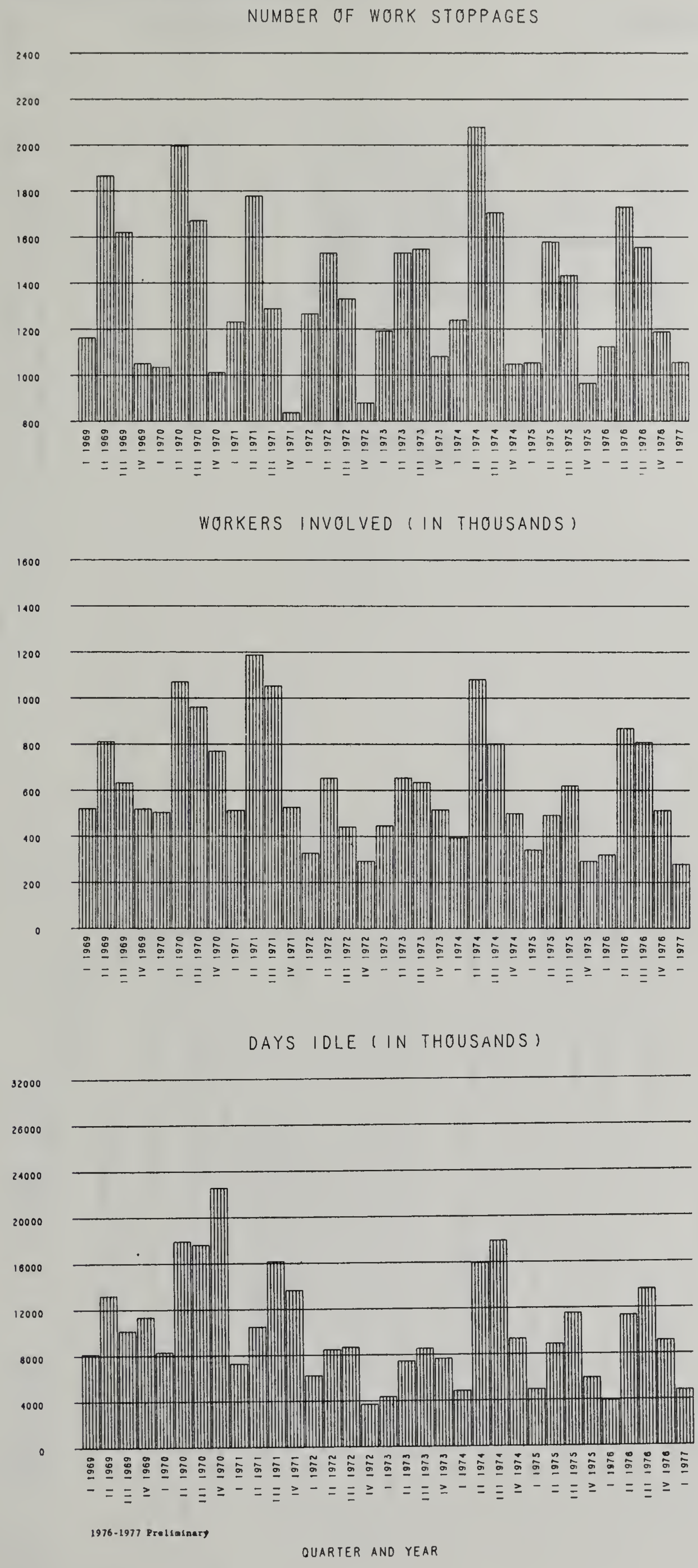
All work stoppages known to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its various cooperating agencies, involving 6 or more workers and lasting a full day or shift or longer, are included in this table. Figures on "workers involved" and "days idle" cover all workers made idle for as long as one shift in establishments directly involved in a stoppage. They do not measure the indirect or secondary effects on other establishments or industries whose employees are made idle as a result of material or service shortages.

Table 2. Work stoppages involving 5,000 workers or more, March 1977

Company	Union 1/	Began	Ended	Workers involved 2/	Days idle 2/
Bituminous Coal Industry	UMW (Ind.)	3/1	3/4	46,300	185,100
Bituminous Coal Industry Island Creek, W. Va.	UMW (Ind.)	3/11	3/11	13,200	13,200
General Motors Corp. Indianapolis, Ind.	UAW (Ind.)	3/5	3/17	8,200	73,800
Bituminous Coal Industry Southern W. Va.	UMW (Ind.)	2/15	3/3	8,000	14,000 3/
General Motors Corp. St. Louis, Missouri	UAW (Ind.)	3/10	3/10	8,000	8,000
Retail Food Chains Pa., Del., and N.J.	MCBW	3/7	3/26	6,000	90,000
General Motors Corp. Janesville, Wisc.	UAW (Ind.)	3/11	3/13	5,800	5,800
Bituminous Coal Industry Northern W. Va.	UMW (Ind.)	3/2	3/4	5,000	15,000
Southeastern Pa. Transit Authority Philadelphia, Pa.	TWU	3/25		5,000	25,000
			Totals:	105,480	429,900

1/ The unions are affiliated with the AFL-CIO, except where they are noted as independent (Ind.).
2/ Preliminary.
3/ Staggered idleness.

Work stoppages by quarter, 1969-1977



1976-1977 Preliminary

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

FIRST CLASS MAIL

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
LAB - 441

U.S.MAIL

Institute of Labor 313
& Industrial Rel. Library
504 E. Armory
Champaign, Illinois 61820

News United States Department of Labor
Office of Information Washington, D.C. 20210

P. Verrochi (202) 523-1091
K. Hoyle (202) 523-1913
Home: 333-1384

USDL: 77-259
FOR RELEASE: 11:00 A.M. E.S.T.
March 28, 1977

WORK STOPPAGES: February 1977

Idleness attributable to work stoppages in February, at 0.09 percent of estimated total working time (0.9 working days idle per thousand) was slightly higher than the estimated idleness rate of .07 percent in January 1977 and February 1976 (table 1).

Total Stoppages in February

- The number of stoppages in February increased to 549 from the January total of 518 and the 540 reported in February 1976.
- About 260,000 workers were engaged in labor disputes this month, well above the 176,000 and 133,000 workers participating in labor disputes last month and in February 1976, respectively.
- Some 1.4 million days off the job resulted from labor-management disputes in February, compared with 1.2 million last month and 1.0 million a year ago.
- Stoppages were relatively large this month, averaging 474 workers, as compared with the averages of 340 workers last month and 246 workers in February 1976.
- Walkouts in February averaged 5.2 days (as measured by days idle per worker involved) in duration, below the 7.7 days for the same month in 1976 and the 6.6 days in January.
- Four large strikes (each involving 5,000 workers or more) were in effect in February 1977 (table 2). These disputes, three of which ended in the month, accounted for 15 percent of all workers involved in strikes and 25 percent of all idleness resulting from strikes in February. There were no large strikes in February 1976.

Stoppages Beginning in February

- Strikes beginning in February declined to 314 from 351 in January and 354 in February 1976. This is the lowest number of strikes for this month since 1967 when 292 strikes were recorded.
- An estimated 158,000 workers engaged in new strikes in February, 65,000 more than a year ago and the highest February total since 1969.

Days of idleness as a percent of estimated total working time is derived by dividing total estimated days of idleness by total estimated working time available. Worktime available is the product of the number of working days during the month and estimated employment in the total economy.

Table 1. Work stoppages, selected periods to February, 1977

Period	Number of stoppages		Workers involved in stoppages		Days idle	
					In effect during month or year	
	Beginning in month or year	In effect during month	Beginning in month or year (thousands)	In effect during month (thousands)	Number (thousands)	Percent of estimated working time
First 2 Months						
1968----	671	840	463	551	6,773	.23
1969----	727	896	362	441	5,739	.20
1970----	609	788	187	386	5,822	.20
1971----	775	1,006	363	448	4,803	.17
1972----	846	1,062	166	281	4,379	.15
1973----	731	892	302	367	2,995	.10
1974----	756	450	236	299	2,733	.09
1975----	679	920	241	287	3,162	.10
1/ 1976----	687	837	168	214	2,221	.07
2/ 1977----	665	832	267	334	2,516	.08
February						
1967----	292	485	104	159	1,276	.10
1968----	357	569	275	451	4,104	.29
1969----	385	578	177	340	2,566	.18
1970----	330	529	116	330	2,111	.15
1971----	359	632	128	206	1,935	.14
1972----	419	675	86	183	1,849	.13
1973----	349	560	151	229	1,335	.09
1974----	377	589	127	167	1,370	.09
1975----	339	540	109	171	1,557	.11
1976 1/ January	333	483	75	121	1,191	.07
February	354	540	93	133	1,030	.07
March	438	630	152	189	1,688	.09
April	583	787	464	521	3,148	.18
May	577	836	164	344	3,706	.23
June	571	931	240	421	4,488	.25
July	523	977	312	607	5,219	.31
August	508	847	123	407	3,824	.22
September	525	778	373	486	4,566	.27
October	537	790	161	421	4,138	.27
November	400	629	262	430	3,228	.19
December	251	466	89	158	1,770	.10
1977 2/ January	351	518	109	176	1,160	.07
February	314	549	158	260	1,356	.09

1/ Preliminary, Revised.
2/ Preliminary.

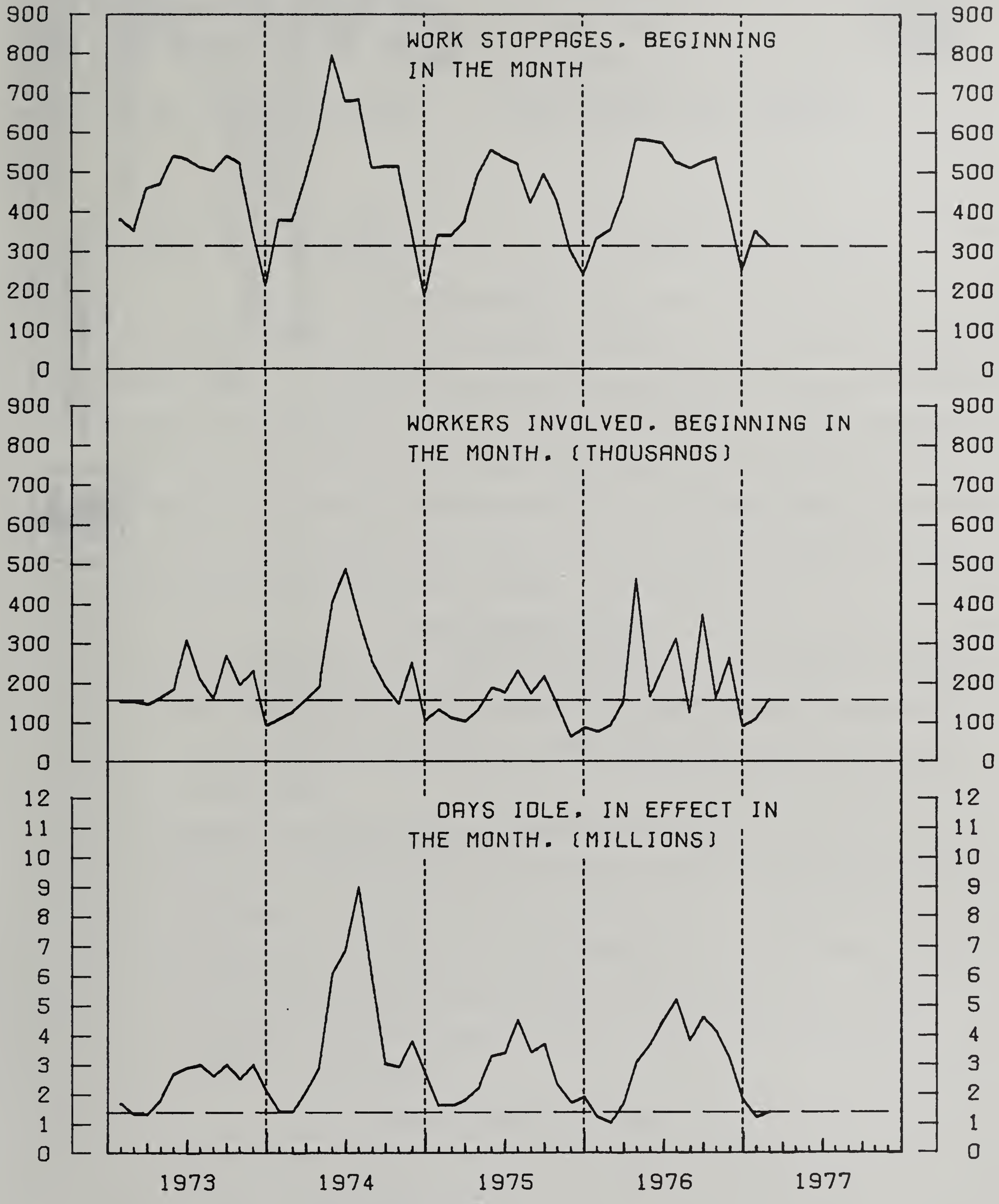
All work stoppages known to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its various cooperating agencies, involving 6 or more workers and lasting a full day or shift or longer, are included in this table. Figures on "workers involved" and "days idle" cover all workers made idle for as long as one shift in establishments directly involved in a stoppage. They do not measure the indirect or secondary effects on other establishments or industries whose employees are made idle as a result of material or service shortages.

Table 2. Work stoppages involving 5,000 workers or more, February 1977

Company	Union 1/	Began	Ended	Workers involved 2/	Days idle
Bituminous Coal Industry Southern W. Va.	UMW (Ind.)	2/15/77	-	15,000	135,000
Bituminous Coal Industry Illinois & Indiana	UMW (Ind.)	2/15/77	2/28/77	10,000	90,000
Rockwell International Corp. Interstate	UAW (Ind.)	2/5/77	2/28/77	7,100	106,500
General Motors Corp. Parma, Ohio	UAW (Ind.)	2/21/77	2/22/77	6,300	6,300
			Totals:	38,400	337,800

1/ The unions are affiliated with the AFL-CIO, except where they are noted as independent (Ind.).
2/ Preliminary.

CHART 1. NUMBER OF STOPPAGES, WORKERS INVOLVED, AND DAYS IDLE, BY MONTH, 1973-77



1976-77 PRELIMINARY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

FIRST CLASS MAIL

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
LAB - 441

U.S. MAIL

Institute of Labor 313
& Industrial Rel. Library
504 E. Armory
Champaign, Illionis 61820

News United States Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics Washington, D.C. 20212

F. Kanterman (202) 523-1091
K. Hoyle (202) 523-1913
Home: 333-1384

USDL: 77-176
FOR RELEASE: 11:00 A.M. E.S.T.
February 28, 1977

WORK STOPPAGES: January 1977

Idleness attributable to work stoppages in January, at 0.07 percent of estimated total working time (0.7 working days idle per thousand), was at its lowest level since February 1976, according to preliminary estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor. In both January and February 1976, the idleness rate was estimated at 0.07 percent. Although strike activity is customarily lower in the first part of the year than in the summer months, the idleness rates for January 1976 and 1977 were the lowest for more than a decade. (See table 1.)

Total Stoppages in January

An estimated 518 stoppages, involving 176,000 workers, were in effect in January.

Some 1.2 million days off the job resulted from labor-management disputes this month, about the same as in January 1976, but more than 400,000 fewer than in January 1975.

Stoppages this January averaged 340 workers per strike.

Strikes were comparatively short this January, averaging 6.6 days idle per worker involved.

Two large strikes (each involving 5,000 workers or more) were in effect in January. These relatively short stoppages accounted for 12 percent of all workers involved in disputes this month, but only 4 percent of the total days of idleness. (See table 2.)

Stoppages Beginning in January

Some 351 stoppages began this month, 100 more than in December 1976 and the highest January level since 1974.

An estimated 109,000 workers participated in new strikes this January, well above the number in both December and January 1976, but approximately 23,000 fewer workers than walked off their jobs in January 1975.

Days of idleness as a percent of estimated total working is derived by dividing total estimated days of idleness by total estimated working time available. Worktime available is the product of the number of working days during the month and estimated employment in the total economy.

Table 1. Work stoppages, selected periods to January, 1977

	Period	Number of stoppages		Workers involved in stoppages		Days idle	
						In effect during month or year	
		Beginning in month or year	In effect during month	Beginning in month or year (thousands)	In effect during month (thousands)	Number (thousands)	Percent of estimated working time
January	1967----	286	443	94	164	1,248	.09
	1968----	314	483	188	276	2,669	.18
	1969----	342	511	185	264	3,173	.21
	1970----	279	458	71	270	3,711	.25
	1971----	416	647	235	320	2,868	.20
	1972----	427	643	80	195	2,530	.17
	1973----	382	543	151	216	1,660	.10
	1974----	379	573	109	172	1,363	.08
1975	January	340	581	132	178	1,605	.09
	February	339	540	109	171	1,557	.11
	March	375	612	101	169	1,774	.11
	April	491	751	131	205	2,177	.13
	May	555	850	187	265	3,319	.20
	June	533	876	174	298	3,362	.20
	July	518	899	231	382	4,465	.26
	August	420	836	172	325	3,377	.20
	September	495	907	217	372	3,684	.22
	October	426	823	143	246	2,327	.14
	November	300	656	63	143	1,737	.11
	December	239	566	86	153	1,854	.11
1976 1/	January	333	2/	75	2/	1,191	.07
	February	354		93		1,030	.07
	March	438		152		1,688	.09
	April	583		464		3,148	.18
	May	577		164		3,706	.23
	June	571		240		4,488	.25
	July	523		312		5,219	.31
	August	508		123		3,824	.22
	September	525		373		4,566	.27
	October	537		161		4,138	.27
	November	400		262		3,228	.19
	December	251		89		1,770	.10
1977 3/	January	351	518	109	176	1,160	.07

1/ Preliminary, revised in January 1977.

2/ Revised estimates for number of stoppages in effect are not available. They will be next month.

3/ Preliminary.

All work stoppages known to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its various cooperating agencies, involving 6 or more workers and lasting a full day or shift or longer, are included in this table. Figures on "workers involved" and "days idle" cover all workers made idle for as long as one shift in establishments directly involved in a stoppage. They do not measure the indirect or secondary effects on other establishments or industries whose employees are made idle as a result of material or service shortages.

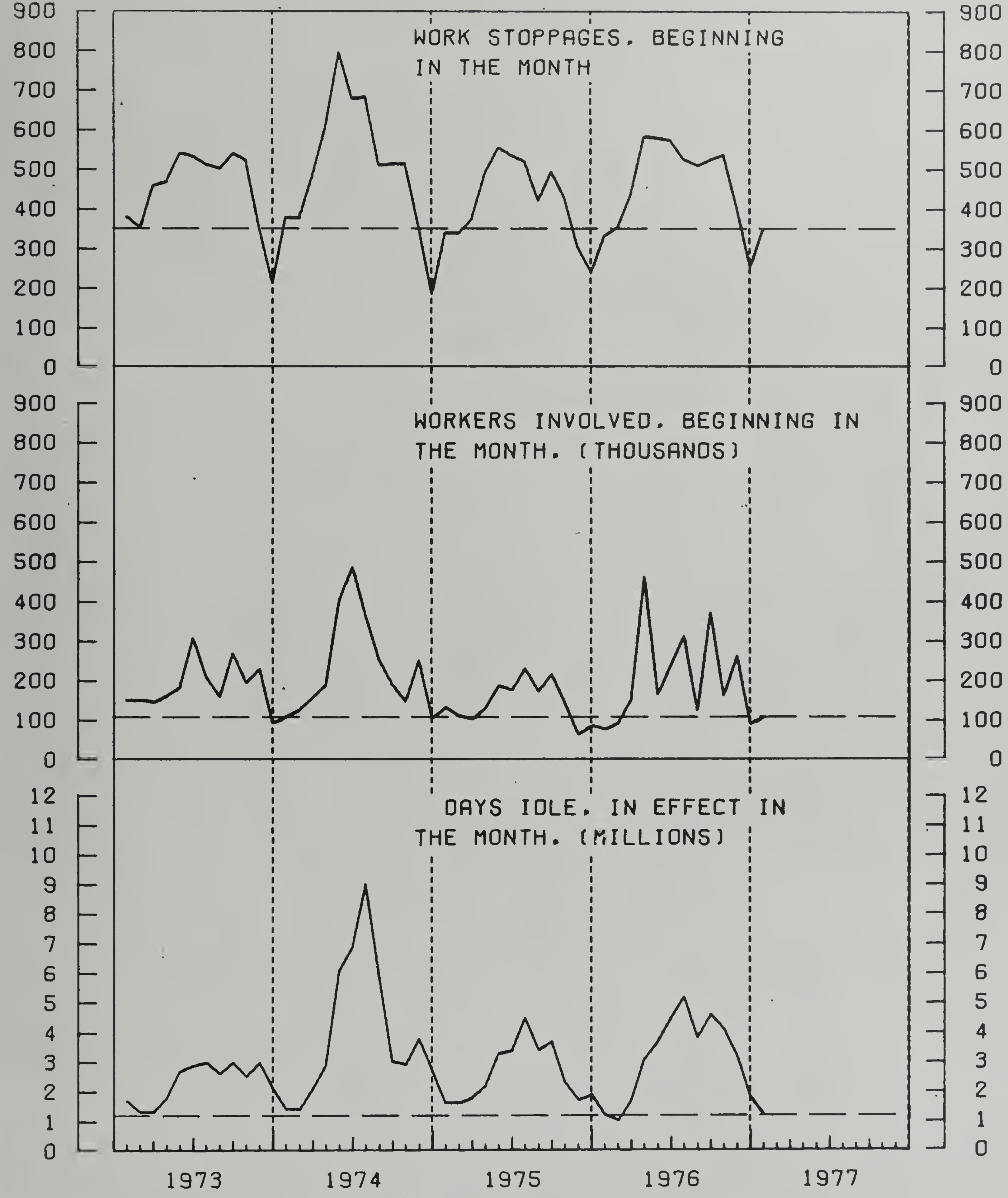
Table 2. Work stoppages involving 5,000 workers or more, January, 1977

Company	Union 1/	Began	Ended	Workers involved 2/	Days idle 2/
Bituminous Coal Industry Western, Pa.	UMW (Ind.)	1/5	1/12	5,000	30,000
General Motors Corp. Saginaw Steering Gear Division Saginaw, Mich.	UAW (Ind.)	1/20	1/23	8,200	16,400
			Totals	13,200	46,400

1/ The unions are affiliated with the AFL-CIO, except where they are noted as independent (Ind.).

2/ Preliminary.

CHART 1. NUMBER OF STOPPAGES, WORKERS INVOLVED, AND DAYS IDLE, BY MONTH, 1973-77



1976-77 PRELIMINARY

[illegible] INC ANAHEIM CALIFORNIA CHART NO 09